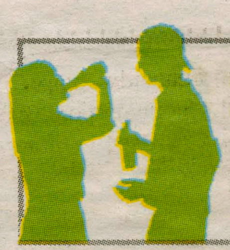
CELEBRATING CHAVEZ

Hamilton honors the Civil Rights leader through a commemorative week of service, theatre, film and discussion. **See page 4.**



SOCIAL SUPPORT

Social hosts devote their nights to protecting party-goers, and some would like to see more respect. **See page 7.**

BEHIND THE SCENES

Check out an interview with acoustic coffeehouse performer Grace Weber by scanning the QR code **on page 12.**

THE SPECTATOR

Thursday, April 7, 2011

Volume LI Number 21

Faculty vote to observe MLK day

Change will move Class & Charter day, extend Reading Period, shorten Senior Week

by Kate Tummarello '11
Online Managing Editor

At the Faculty Meeting held this past Tuesday, the faculty voted to alter the calendar of the spring semester, starting during the 2012-13 academic year. The College will now observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day and start classes the day following the holiday.

To compensate for this, and to ensure that Hamilton meets the standards set by the New York State Department of Education requirements, classes will continue to meet for an additional day, which means Class & Charter Day will be moved to the following Monday. All classes will be held on that final Monday, and the Class & Charter Day ceremony will be held at 4 p.m.

"The ceremony helps the students feel that the semester is coming to an end," said Associate Professor of English Nathanial Strout, who proposed the motion. "Moving it to 4 p.m. on a Monday…is a very different feel."

To accommodate this shift, Reading Period will consist of the Tuesday and Wednesday following Class & Charter Day, in addition to the Saturday and Sunday between the final Friday of classes and the final Monday of classes. Final exams will be held from Wednesday night to Sunday, and Senior Week will begin that Monday, as opposed to beginning a day earlier, as it currently does.

Many faculty members in attendance expressed concerns with the proposed changes. The most commonly discussed objections focused on the practical results of this change. Many of the objections made were concerning whether or not students would use the day off to actually respect the holiday, or whether they would use it to travel to campus. Members were also concerned about how students would treat the final Friday of classes, the final Monday of classes and the weekend days that fall in between.

"Folks who have talked to me have expressed concern that [students] wouldn't actually change their behavior on Friday, and the Friday behavior would blend through into Monday," said Assistant Professor of Anthropology Chris Vasantkumar.

"I was wondering… if the council or anyone else has talked to students," Professor of Government Steve Orvis said.

Strout responded, "I'm embarrassed to say, no, we did not think of asking the students."

Faculty members debated whether this new schedule would effectively shorten or lengthen the time students can use for Reading Period, since the first two days of Reading Period would occur before the end of classes. Members also discussed the lack of codified rules on how the Reading Period can be used. It was agreed that they would discuss the issue again in May.

*see **Faculty** page 5*

The Hill responds to crisis in Japan

by Joshua Yates '14
News Writer

While life on the hill can be described as a "bubble," being in the "middle of nowhere" provides campus with a feeling of protection from the world's worst events. Yet, the recent disaster in Japan that has all but physically and psychologically scarred its land and people has hit home for some on campus.

Anna Yakabe '13, an international student from Japan, said, "I was shocked. When I first read about it, I thought Tokyo was unaffected, but when I learned that that was not the case, my first concerns were for my family. Thankfully, my mom had sent me emails right after the earthquake (and, of course, I called them) so I knew both she and my dad were fine."

On March 11, 2011, a 9.0 earthquake struck off the coast of Japan, creating an enormous tsunami that devastated the northern part of the country. Japan soon became faced with a possible nuclear reactor meltdown at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, which some are claiming to be the worst nuclear emergency since Chernobyl. Explosions have occurred. While efforts to contain the damage have taken place, radioactive material has leaked into the atmosphere and into the water of Tokyo and the Pacific ocean. According to *The New York Times*, the current death toll stands at 11,600, with expected numbers to reach 20,000 dead, and more than 16,000 are listed as missing. Needless to say, this is a disaster of epic proportions.

As head of the Japanese Program at Hamilton, Associate Professor of Japanese Kyoko Omori has been put in a difficult situation in making sure those students who are currently studying in Japan are safe, and making sure the four students who planned to study in Tokyo from April 1 to August 5, 2011 can safely study abroad. After much deliberation, the program reportedly will continue, but the students are now planning on leaving April 7. Of the four, three students have decided to still study in Japan.

Celia Yu '12, one of the students planning on going to Japan, was asked about her worries regarding the potential cancellation of her study abroad program. "I did think that the program was going to be pressured to cancel because of worried parents and responsibility over our well-being during a difficult time, but I am glad they decided to postpone the program for two weeks," said Yu. "I hope things will be under control and more clear in these few weeks." Accompanying Celia are Zachary Pintchnik '12 and Tani Leigh '12.

So what does the Japan crisis still mean for the Hamilton community? For the next two weeks, various lectures, Think Tank discussions and fundraising activities have been planned all in the effort to raise awareness about the current situation

*see **Japan** page 4*

Composting to begin on the Hill

by Russ Doubleday '11
Senior Editor

Recyclemania has wrapped up for the year, and Hamilton has made large strides to increase the amount it recycles. Starting on Monday, April 1, the College will begin composting its food waste, which will further decrease the amount of waste the college sends to landfills.

After about a year, the composted material will turn into a nutrient-rich fertilizer and soil product which can be used across campus, including in the community garden and on the College's athletic fields. The benefits of composting will not be evident up front, but eventually, the College will not need to look further than its own backyard for fertilizer and fresh soil. Composted soil and fertilizer is more nutrient rich and holds moisture and helps prevent erosion better than other fertilizers.

*see **Composting,** page 5*

College announces tuition increase

Comprehensive fee for 2011-12 school year will be $53,470

by Adam Fix '14
News Writer

As a nonprofit institution navigating through highly uncertain economic waters, Hamilton College struggles to balance a comprehensive liberal arts program with the ever-expanding costs of higher education. For the 2011-2012 academic year, total comprehensive tuition rose 3.3 percent to a grand total of $53,470. Although this compares favorably to last year's 3.8 percent tuition hike, this latest increase brings total fees to their highest level in College history.

Karen Leach, Vice President of Administration and Finance, described 3.3 percent as "relatively modest." She cited Hamilton's previous tuition increases of 3.8 percent, 3.0 percent, 4.8 percent, 5.3 percent and 5.4 percent in the past five years, and noted that the College has managed to curb costs compared to other liberal arts colleges. Leach in particular considered Amherst College's 5 percent tuition increase and emphasized that Hamilton "attempts to keep the increase in comprehensive fees as low as possible."

"Hamilton has worked hard on energy conservation," Leach asserted while explaining efforts to control costs. She also claimed that the college has "reduced or reallocated operating budget funds as needed to meet budget targets."

The increases will primarily be allotted towards financial aid benefits, employee salaries and employee health insurance. Primarily through endowments and gifts, however, Hamilton has increased financial aid by 7.2 percent, more than twice the rate of the increase in comprehensive fees. In a recent all-campus email, President Stewart asserted that the board strives to "honor our need-blind commit

*see **College,** page 2*

Volunteer Weekend 2011

by Allison Eck '12
Editor-in-Chief

"Hamilton College is changing wonderfully before our very eyes, just as society is changing," said President Joan Hinde Stewart at the Dedication of the Days-Massolo Center last Friday. The event, complete with shrimp h'orderves and live jazz by Hamilton musicians, commemorated the repurposing of the building as the Cultural Education Center (CEC). The space was formerly the Ferry Building, home to the Computer Science Department.

The CEC is both a practical and symbolic move toward integrating more cultural awareness into the academic environment. The center is named in honor of Drew S. Days III '63 and Arthur J. Massolo '64, whose attitudes reflect inclusiveness and acceptance.

In his remarks, Chief Diversity Officer and Professor of Africana Studies Donald Carter noted the CEC's focus on cultural mediation and real world impact. He also discussed its somewhat informal atmosphere: "Speakers should feel free to follow lines of inquiry and present problem areas for our exploration, rather than just stick to formal guidelines," he said. "The space lends itself to this more innovative encounter." His comments were followed by a video message from Days, who was out of the country, as well as the unveiling of the plaque.

Students at the dedication had mixed reactions.

"I wasn't sure what to expect," said Alexandra Huss '13. "But I was happily greeted by a friendly, tight-knit community. I think that is a good indicator of how the Center will inspire enthusiasm on campus."

Others, including some members of the Social Justice Initiative (SJI), were displeased with the way in which the Center was presented to the Hamilton community – namely, as the product of alumni accomplishments.

"So much effort and contention went into convincing the trustees and the administration that we needed a space like this," Sushmita Preetha '11 said. "And all of a sudden, it seems as if it was the Trustees who made it all happen. And perhaps they did: what else but money talks?"

She also believes that the way in which the Center has been promoted ignores the long history of the CEC and its conception.

"I am glad that we finally have a building, but I wonder to what extent we can call it our 'own,'" Preetha said. "If we are not too careful, the building may fail to incorporate the ideologies the CEC was centered upon."

One thing all parties can agree on is the overall aim: to prepare students for the outside world. In his address, Days concluded, "Any institution of higher learning that does not have a focus on diversity is not going to be a very effective institution."

Days-Massolo Dedication

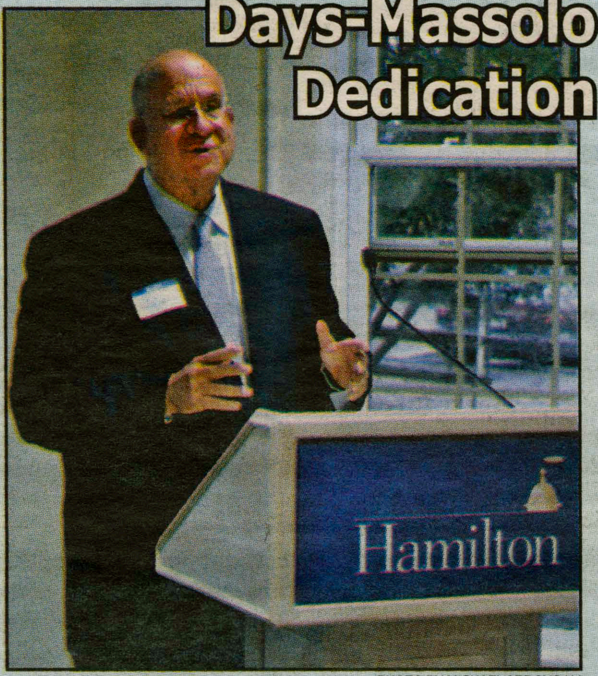


PHOTO BY MICHAEL ARROYO '14

Art Massolo speaks about diversity at the dedication of the Days-Massolo Center.

Professors, alumna discuss preserving history through narrative

by Emma Laperruque '14
Production Editor

"You don't know how much your story matters," said Judy Silverstein Gray, K '78, at the "Missing Voices, Found Stories" workshop on Saturday afternoon in the Kirner Johnson Red Pit.

Silverstein Gray, co-chair of the Kirkland Archives, Media and Publication Committee, helped to lead this conversation "on preserving narrative," in addition to Associate Professor of Philosophy Katheryn Doran and James L. Ferguson Professor of History Maurice Isserman. Professor of Art William Salzillo was also scheduled to host, but was unable to attend.

Both Isserman and Doran discussed how modern day, technologically-dictated, written communication is losing richness and power, and how a lack of thoughtful letters, and surplus of careless texts, will leave missing pieces in our histories.

"Missing Voices, Found Stories" entreated attendees tell their stories, not only to preserve their own past, but to preserve the past of their associated institutions.

Along with discussing various means of communication and archives, attendees shared stories about Kirkland and Hamilton College. A photo of Kirkland President Samuel Babbitt was projected at the front of the room, old issues of *The Spectator* were shared, and two pieces of paper circulated, encouraging people to write down memories and sentiments. One unsigned message shared, in the spirit of the workshop: "I'm proud that Kirkland's heart keeps beating."

Hamilton alum encourages students to "live their passion"

by Kate Tummarello '11
Online Managing Editor

"Expect greatness, and persevere through the rest," said Melissa Kong '08.

Kong, who spoke on Saturday afternoon in the Kirner Johnson Auditorium, focused on the importance of passion and determination when considering a career.

While at Hamilton, Kong studied psychology, wrote for *The Spectator* and was the founding travel editor for *The Continental*. After graduating in 2008, she went on to work in consumer marketing for *Fortune Magazine* and now works as the associate brand manager for Time Inc., Home Entertainment. In addition, she is the editor-in-chief at *Student-Branding.com*, where she writes a column about successful 20-somethings who have followed their passion.

According to Kong, the key to being successful is to determine your passion and then pursue it relentlessly. "You have to discover what your passion actually is," she said, before quickly assuring her audience, "You already know."

Kong also stressed the concept of having "idea confidence," something she defined as "having a relentless belief in an idea."

"You have to be a little bit delusional about your idea," she said, "because most people are going to tell you no."

Comprehensive fee to be $53,470 next year

from **Tuition**, *page 1*

ment and to offset reductions in federal and state aid to students."

According to Leach, certain other funds will go towards "the new museum built in 2012-13, to cover increasing costs of athletic travel, and to increase the funding level for renovation and repair of campus facilities. According to President Stewart, the overall goal is to "control costs while maintaining the quality of the academic program" students and parents alike have come to expect from the college.

The direct costs, set by the Board of Trustees annually in the spring, includes tuition, room, board, and activities fees. Out of the $53,470, $42,220 goes to actual tuition, $10,830 to room and board, with $420 for student activities fees. This total does not include "estimated costs" such as textbook expenses and travel allocations, which for some students can total nearly $3,000. The total college budget currently totals $142.9 million.

Students have expressed frustration with the recent increase, as well as the financial aid system in general, with many agreeing that "the financial aid process lacks transparency."

On the other end of the spectrum, Bret Turner '13 asserted that "the school is like a business, and if people don't feel the price is worth the product, they have the option to go somewhere else."

"The economy has still not recovered to its post-recession strength," Leach concluded. "We continue to moderate our increases, but that means fewer resources for new initiatives and an ongoing need to conserve funds. Our goal is to have the highest quality student experience, so we must plan carefully how we spend the funds available to us."

Hamilton: $53,560
Amherst: $54,322
Bates: $55,350
Bowdoin: $54,950
Colby: $53,590
Connecticut: $55,410
Middlebury: $55,440
Trinity: $55,505
Tufts: $55,000
Wesleyan: $56,341
Williams: $54,921

This information is from the National Center for Education Statistics. It includes each institution's listed tuition and fees, books, supplies, room and board, and "other" expenses for the 2010-2011 academic year."

Student Assembly Update

by Katie Hee '14
News Writer

Trustee Meeting

Student Assembly members who attended the trustee meeting a few weeks ago each reported on what was discussed. Construction was approved for the Philosophy department to be moved to the old Career Center. Construction will break ground in June for the Elmer and Ruth Wellin Museum where the current Philosophy building is located. The sidewalk beside College Hill Road will be lengthened for students to more easily reach Griffin Road. Hamilton College has successfully reduced its carbon footprint, and the amount of energy expended has been lowered in nearly every building. Congratulations to Assistant Professor of Government Peter Cannavò, who was granted tenure.

Freshmen Orientation

Discussions are underway to make changes to the first-year orientation schedule. Two of the most important topics of freshmen orientation, alcohol and sexual assault, may not be discussed effectively. Student Assembly is considering making discussions more personal to Hamilton students and continuing some of these topics in the extended orientation program, when students will be more settled, so perhaps the programs could have a more powerful impact.

Movin' on down (the Hill)

Career Center moves to Bristol, Philosophy Department to take its place

by Jordyn Taylor '12
News Writer

With Hamilton's ambitious Strategic Plan, it seems that physical construction and departmental relocations are permanent features of this college's campus. In this academic year alone, the Sadove Student Center was completed and the Days-Massolo Cultural Education Center opened in the Computer Science Department's old home, the Ferry Building. And the physical changes to Hamilton's campus aren't stopping there; this past week, the Career Center has taken up residence in Bristol Center.

When many of the offices and facilities that relocated from the Bristol Center to the Sadove Student Center, Bristol became the ideal new home for the Career Center. Thanks to a successful renovation project, Bristol's third floor – which used to be the home to student media – has been effectively transformed.

Career Center employee Jeff Escalante '11 said, "There were no problems with the old building – it was cute, the Career Center was in there for a long time, and it had a convenient location. [But] the new one is obviously much nicer and newer, and there is more space."

In the new Career Center, sunlight shines through wide windows into a bright, spacious reception area and adjacent private meeting rooms.

Besides its aesthetics, the new Career Center will offer a helpful host of student services. Along with the career counselling and workshops it has always offered, the new Career Center now usefully houses the offices for fellowship and pre-medicine advisors, making it a one-stop-shopping experience for students seeking post-graduate opportunities.

Some members of the Hamilton Community have raised concerns about Bristol Center being a more remote location than the Career Center's old home on College Hill Road, near the center of campus. But despite this potential inconvenience, many others remain confident that the Career Center will be as popular as before.

Amanda Barnes '12 said, "I think it's still worth it to go to the Career Center. I think the new space will be just as, if not more, conducive to helping students find jobs."

Matt Wiltshire '14 agreed: "I don't think it matters where it's located on campus. The people who want to go to the Career Center will go no matter where it is, and the people who don't want to go still won't go."

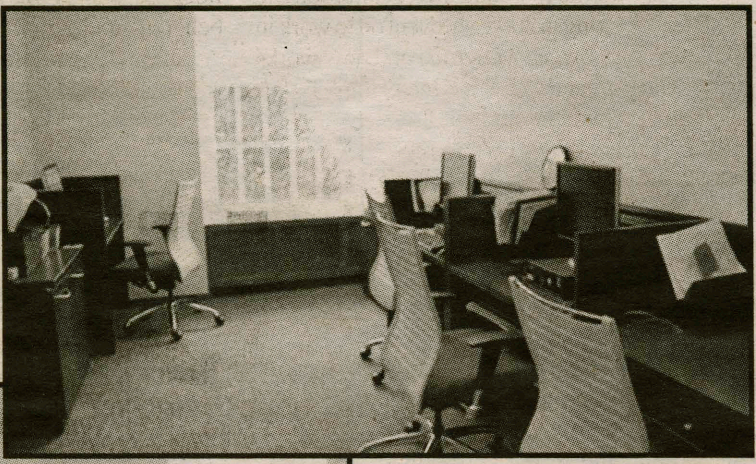
The Career Center's move to Bristol Center produced unlikely benefits for the surrounding community. Last week, Clinton Fire Department used the old Career Center building for training exercises. Using fake smoke to simulate a real fire scenario, the department ran training exercises. They also ran attack line stretches, in which they practiced stretching hose lines from the truck into the building.

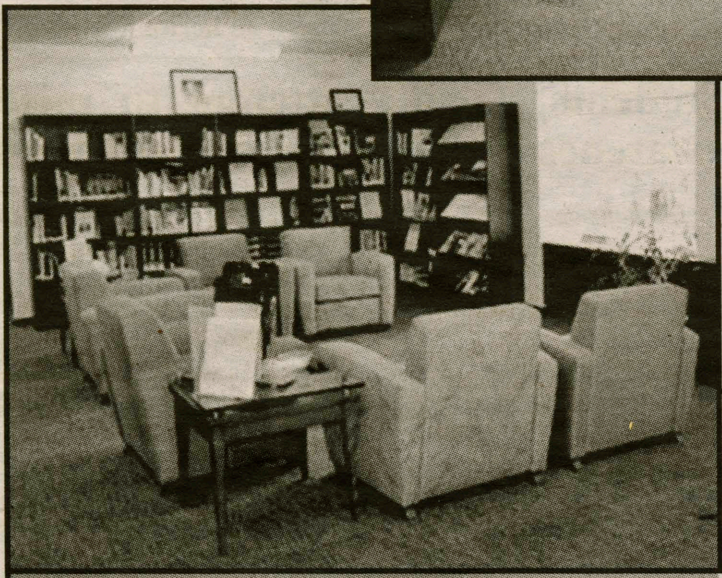
One Clinton firefighter explained the advantages of this opportunity: "Using an acquired structure like the Hamilton College Career Center is a very effective and realistic training method because it allows firefighters to experience an unfamiliar atmosphere and adapt their procedures to it."

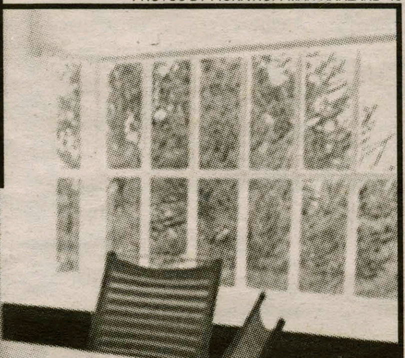
Don't expect the Career Center's move to Bristol Center to be the end of the physical changes to Hamilton's Campus. Construction on the Elmer and Ruth Wellin Museum will begin in June.

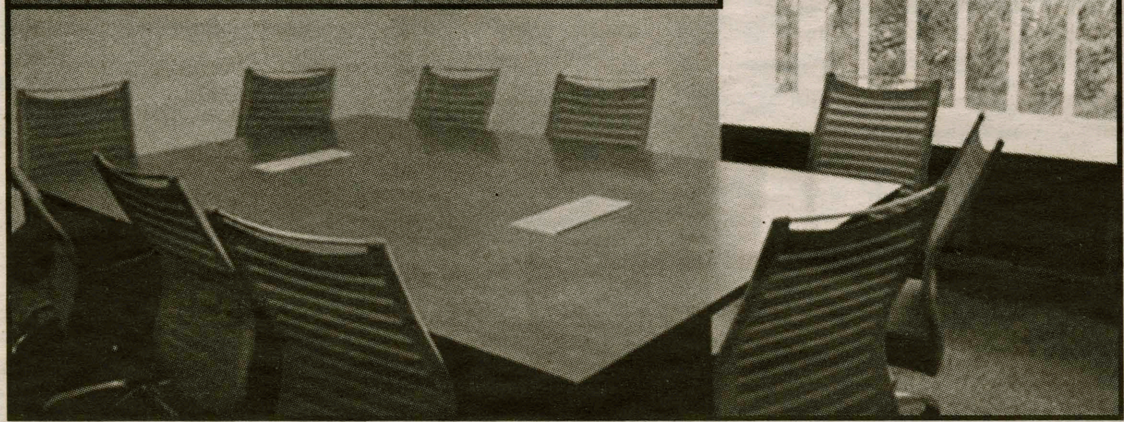
Associate Vice President for Facilities and Planning, Steve Bellona explained, "We are currently working on the design for a new museum, which will be built on the site of the present day Philosophy house, 210 College Hill Road. As such, this building will be removed in June with the pending start of construction for the new museum. "

The Philosophy Department will be moved to the old Career Center, allowing the Clinton Fire Department to conduct another set of training exercises with the current Philosophy building early this summer.









From top, counterclockwise: space for the Career Center's student employees, new library and lounge, conference room for Career Center staff.

PHOTOS BY FIONA HOFFMAN-HARLAND '13

AMHERST BATES BOWDOIN COLBY CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

NESCAC News

by Joshua Yates '14
News Writer

Williams College

Corey A. Booker, mayor of Newark, NJ, is one of three distinguished speakers that have been invited by the Williams community to address the graduating senior class on June 6 for "Class Day." Joining him will be Arctic and Antarctic explorer Ann Bancroft and filmmaker Ken Burns. *The Williams Record* reports that Booker is set to give this year's commencement address, while Bancroft is set to give the Baccalaureate Address. Burns will host a conversation with students and parents in the class of 1962 Centre.

Many on campus are excited for the speakers the college has chosen. Each of them is an icon in their respective fields. The *Record* notes, "Booker rose to prominence due to his innovative vision and strong leadership skills as the mayor of New Jersey's largest city. Bancroft is known for being the first woman in history to reach both the North and South Poles. Burns is the acclaimed director and producer of several historical documentaries." Booker, Bancroft and Burns are reportedly going to receive honorary degrees at the Commencement ceremony.

Bowdoin College

As part of its "Anything But Straight in Athletics" lecture series, in which speakers have been invited to campus to discuss the difficulties homosexual athletes have combating homophobia in sports, Bowdoin has invited general manager of the Toronto Maple Leafs, Brian Burke.

"My goal is to throw the weight of an NHL front office at the issue," wrote Burke in an email to *The Bowdoin Orient*. "This bias needs to disappear, and I think pro leagues and teams can add useful muscle to this issue." Sadly, Burke's passion for confronting homophobia was inspired by personal tragedy. According to the *Orient*, "his son Brendan, who became a pioneer in the world of professional sports world when he came out publicly in 2009…was the closest the NHL came to having a publicly gay figure. When Brendan died suddenly in a car accident in February of last year, his father sensed a need to carry on his son's mission to promote tolerance and end homophobic language in hockey."

Director of Athletics Jeff Ward told the *Orient*, "By personality, position and reputation, he is incredibly respected in the athletics world, and there are a lot of students interested in hearing him talk about anything." Burke reportedly will be giving the keynote address as a "kickoff" to the highly anticipated lecture series.

Trinity College

In a school known and criticized for its relatively low amount of racial diversity, there has been a surprising "resurgence" of campus interest and activism in Trinity's African Studies program. One student writes in *The Trinity Tripod*, "The expansion is noticeable in the growing number of African Studies classes, new professors and student interest in studying abroad. This year alone there are over 10 students doing major senior research projects, from examining human rights discourses in African fiction to labor agency among Tanzanian with HIV/Aids to gay rights movements and discourses in Southern Africa to Islamic forms of resistance to British colonial rule in the Sudan."

The *Tripod*, also reports: "many students have become involved in African development efforts on the ground. [The] African Development Coalition (ADC), led by Ibrahim Diallo '11 and Sofia Melograno '11, seeks to raise awareness about contemporary African culture, politics and economic issues on… campus and beyond, ultimately bringing together a network of civil servants to work towards peace, education and development in the continent." Many on campus not only see this as a sign of Trinity progressing as a school and community, but also a sign that an extremely relevant and important part of the world is still just that, important to all of us.

MIDDLEBURY TRINITY TUFTS WESLEYAN WILLIAMS

Hamilton community commemorates Cesar Chavez through service, education

by Kate Moore '12
Managing Editor

The "American Dream" could become a reality for many Hamilton students. Since childhood, society has emphasized that the path to success begins with a solid education, the will to work hard and the belief in one's ability to achieve greatness. Cesar Chavez's motto "si se puede," or, "it can be done," reflects similar values, but he sought to bring the American Dream within the grasp of those who may not have access to stepping stones such as a private college education.

For decades, Chavez fought for equal education, healthcare and benefits for farm workers. He organized the country's first farm workers union, which was instrumental in passing the 1975 California Agricultural Labor Relations Act. Chavez helped Americans to look beyond their own personal bubbles and think about where their food actually came from.

In a similar attempt to inspire Hamilton students to think about the larger implications of Chavez's legacy, several campus organizations joined forces to present Cesar Chavez Commemorative Week beginning on March 31, Chavez's birthday.

When Consulting Director of the Cultural Education Center and Lecturer in Education Madeleine Lopez first arrived at Hamilton in 2008, she was surprised by the lack of student awareness regarding Chavez's legacy and resolved to change this. In Spring 2009 she teamed up with several student organizations to host a one-day event introducing Chavez to the campus consciousness. Given the strong turnout, Lopez opted for a week-long event this year and introduced different elements. While the academic and educational component remains, theatrical performances and service excursions were also included.

"The really wonderful thing is [that] different groups were involved each day, so we really reached a large audience," said Lopez.

The Diversity and Social Justice Project hosted a coffee hour on "The Future of Labor in the U.S." According to Irma M. and Robert D. Morris Professor of Economics Derek Jones, unions are generally associated with good social justice outcomes because they close the 'representation gap' that exists between workers and employers.

However, Henry Platt Bristol Professor of International Affairs Alan Cafruny asserted, "organized labor in the United States is on life support today." He said that many Americans are only just recognizing the serious economic disparities in our country, and that there is no countervailing ideology to support the underrepresented populations if unions are snuffed out. Lopez went on to argue that the protection of unions is a life or death decision in this country. She cited the case of 17-year-old Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez, who worked picking grapes in California until she died of heat stroke in the summer of 2009.

According to Lopez, 14 other heat-related deaths have occurred in California since then, with employers consistently being let off with community service and $1,000 fines. According to Lopez, Americans need to consider not only the status of unions in this country, but the status of the workers they serve to protect.

One way in which Cesar Chavez Week examined the plight of the underrepresented populations was to invite the filmmakers of *New Children/New York* to share their experience working with immigrant communities in the United States. Gisela Sanders Alcantara wanted to work with the children of Latino immigrant families in New York City by offering them opportunities to explore and preserve their heritage.

Alcantara partnered with the non-profit Make the Road by Walking to offer a youth film program, but quickly discovered that "[the youth] wanted to do films about anything but themselves, least of all their heritage." Over the course of the next four years, Alcantara brought the students out of their shells and encouraged the production of films that included personal exploration as well as community education.

For her part, Alcantara produced a documentary about her experience, highlighting three students' perspectives on their immigrant families. *New Children/New York* received critical praise along with comments from many viewers who felt that their attitude toward immigrants in America had changed since listening to the youths' perspectives.

Two service events during Cesar Chavez Week encouraged members of the Hamilton community to consider the perspectives of others. A group of Hamilton students read the book *Harvesting Hope* to fourth-graders at Kernan Elementary School in Utica. In addition, a campus-wide service event sent Hamilton students and faculty to volunteer at local community gardens, food pantries and soup kitchens.

"I wanted to emphasize Chavez's dedication to service; he was an agent for change," said Lopez. "I felt it was important to bring Chavez's legacy to a campus like Hamilton; it would be poignant and welcome on campus."

"[Volunteering at Kernan Elementary] was a great way for me to learn more about Chavez's life and then share his legacy with the students in a fun and interactive way," said Hannah Roth '11. "After reading the story, the students created symbols of their own to represent ways to improve their own communities. Chavez's legacy is a message of hope for marginalized communities and it was empowering to watch these fourth-graders connect it to their own lives."

Lopez feels that the commemorative week brought Chavez's humanitarian vision to fruition on campus and in the surrounding community. After the "Mexican Night" party controversy in spring 2009, many students on campus advocated for education about Latinos in America in order to prevent such stereotyping in the future. Lopez believes that the events of last week were a step toward educating the campus in this way.

"The coming together of a diverse cross-section of Hamilton College–faculty, administrators, students and staff–across gender, racial and ethnic lines captures the potential of a truly diverse, intercultural vision for Hamilton's future," said Lopez.

PHOTO BY ALLISON ECK '12

Sophomores Rebecca Knipp and Shelagh Browne tend to a local garden on the Day of Service during Cesar Chavez Week.

PHOTO BY KATE TUMMARELLO '11

Filmmaker Gisela Sanders Alcantara speaks on teaching youth to represent Latin American heritage in film.

Colgate professor speaks on Japanese economy and crisis

by Joshua Yates '14
News Writer

As the first speaker in a series of events entitled "Disaster in Japan: Earthquake, Tsunami, and Nuclear Power Plant Crisis," Professor Tako Kato, the W.S Schupf Professor of Far Eastern Studies and a professor of Economics at Colgate University, lectured to Hamilton students and faculty about a recent comparative study he was part of, which compared characteristics of the Japanese and U.S economies.

Kato started off by commenting on the current crisis in Japan, saying, "The human suffering of the people from the Great East Japan Earthquake is enormous, but it is expected to have limited economic effects." The idea of "resilience" as a quality of the Japanese people as well as the Japanese economy was a recurring theme of the lecture.

Kato explained various aspects of the two economies being compared, highlighting unique and important aspects of each. For example, Japan has had historically much stronger job security for its labor force than the U.S because of its unique long-term contract system. This system, according to Kato, is what helped Japan weather its long economic recession from the late 1980s to 2003, otherwise called Japan's "Lost Decade." Kato explained almost the entire Japanese work force bargained with employers, and sacrificed time and pay in order to keep jobs; Kato said this would be hard to apply in the U.S. The lecture hit upon Japan's history of recovering from any type of challenge, be it an economic recession or a natural disaster, giving hope for those battling the current crisis in Japan.

Students, faculty attempt to raise awareness, garner support for Japan

from ***Japan****, page 1*

affecting Japan.

The Asian Cultural Society (ACS) has also set up an event for Saturday, April 9 in the Annex to raise money for those suffering in Japan.

Matt Ha '14, a member of ACS, said, "It's called 'Game 4 Japan.' This event essentially is a FIFA 11/Super Smash Bros. Brawl contest. Originally, we planned this event just to be an ACS 'fun' event, but because of the recent Tsunami, we decided to add entrance fees for interested players to raise money."

Some feel more should be done. Yakabe noted, "At the individual level, students seem aware of the issue, however as a community, I cannot say that there is enough awareness around. I hope we see many students attend the events and make donations at the fundraiser."

Professor Omori has suggested that all who want to help should donate to The Japan Society and/or the American Red Cross.

"I strongly feel Japan will recover from this…but people have lost their families, friends and neighbors. Psychological care and financial support are urgent necessities," said Omori.

Yet, "perhaps the most encouraging [thing] about this horrible tragedy has been the cooperation among the people in Japan helping one another… [rebuild] their lives and cities."

Those organizing these events hope the same cooperation can take place here in order to help the Japanese people.

Science News

Post RecycleMania, composting comes to the Hill

*from **Composting**, page 1*

Jen Santoro '11, a member of the Recycling Task Force, stated that the College can compost 20 tons of food waste a month, which will increase Hamilton's recycling rate by an estimated 10 to 15 percent. "This ultimately helps us save money and the environment," Santoro said. Until now, this food waste had been going directly to a landfill. The school will be working with Bon Appétit to divert food waste for composting purposes.

Composting has been on the Recycling Task Force's agenda for a while, but finding a practical way to compost has been difficult. Composting is not simply putting food waste in a pile and waiting for it to decompose. Rather, the carbon and nitrogen levels in the compost must be monitored so that the bacteria decomposing the waste have the right balance of nutrients to survive. Compost piles must be kept at about 40 to 60 percent moisture and be turned over regularly so there is enough oxygen in the compost for the bacteria to live. The composting location must be able to accommodate the large amount of food waste Hamilton generates and also must be practical for maintenance of the compost.

www.ga agarden.com

Although composting has long been one of the Recycling Task Force's central goals, this year starting a composting system was part of the pledge Hamilton made as part of RecycleMania. Composting will begin just as the RecycleMania competition ends. According to Assistant Director of Physical Plant Terry Hawkridge, Hamilton has performed better than ever in this 10-week collegiate contest. There are several categories in which colleges and universities across the country compete.

As of week five, Hawkridge reported that the College had a recycling rate of 24.79 percent. Although this is a five percent increase over last year's effort, Hamilton only places 158th out of 274 schools in this category. But in the amount of recycled material per person competition, Hamilton stood in 37th place out of 363 schools at the eight week mark. At last check, the College was recycling at a rate of 18.16 pounds per person. Although final results are not out yet, it is evident that Hamilton has greatly improved its recycling rates this year.

Santoro said there are three reasons why the College is recycling at a higher rate this year. First, the Recycling Task Force has worked with Bon Appétit to reduce the amount of cardboard boxes that are placed in the trash. The greater community has also been more diligent at recycling cardboard waste. Second, the growing success of Cram and Scram has eliminated a lot of waste at the end of school year. Instead of throwing out goods, Cram and Scram takes this "waste" and resells it at the beginning of the school year. Third, Santoro noted that the College has simply become more aware of the recycling options on campus, and students and staff are being more responsible in taking the extra step to recycle.

"Things like the debut of composting, seeing all the recycling bins around campus, and the new 'What is Recyclable?' boards in the dining halls are making a difference in the student body's mind set," Santoro explained, "and that's something we're really glad to see at Hamilton."

Hawkridge submitted a final report to RecycleMania on Wednesday, April 6, but the final results are not presently available. RecycleMania began in 2001 as a competition between two schools in Ohio. Ten years later, this 10-week recycling and waste reduction contest has 527 participating colleges and universities. While the program is competitive in nature, RecycleMania aims to promote friendly competition with the goal of increasing recycling participation at colleges and universities, as well as raising awareness to each institution's waste management programs and capacity to recycle.

Faculty vote shifts spring semester

*from **Faculty**, page 1*

Some faculty members opposed the changes on the grounds that the College does not observe many other federal, religious and cultural holidays.

Chief Diversity Officer Donald Carter responded to this charge: "It is a bit disingenuous to compare this to a religious holiday....All of our NESCAC peers recognize it."

"This might affect our general perception in the broader community, as it does with those people of color here at the College. It is something that, I think, we may be standing on the wrong side of history by rejecting," Carter said. "We're going to have to give up something, in order to respect this holiday."

Many members in attendance suggested alternate approaches. Professor of Physics Ann Silversmith suggested that the College start classes the Friday before Martin Luther King Jr. day.

To that, Strout responded, "We discussed that option at great length." In addition to the committee's concern about shortening winter break, and therefore decreasing the faculty's time to do research, "A semester that starts on Friday…and then runs into what is in effect a three-day absence of classes is not an effective way to start a semester."

Another suggestion was to either start the semester on the Sunday before Martin Luther King Jr. day or continue classes into the weekend immediately following Martin Luther King Jr. day. To these suggestions, Strout cited a number of concerns that have been raised since the Committee began discussing this issue in the fall. Specifically, Strout mentioned problems that arise for professors who have families.

One hotly debated suggestion was to shorten Spring Break by one week so that the rest of the semester could remain intact. Many faculty members scoffed at the idea, and Lenord C. Ferguson Professor of Music Sam Pellman responded, "From my cold, dead hands." In arguing against the shortened Spring Break, faculty members mentioned aspects of student and faculty life that would be harmed, such as travel for musical groups, Alternative Spring Break and opportunities for faculty to complete research. After holding a paper ballot, the amendment that would shorten Spring Break to one week failed, with 17 votes for and 69 votes against.

After much debate, the original motion to begin the semester the day after Martin Luther King Jr. Day and move Class & Charter day to the following Monday passed, with 33 votes for and 25 votes against.

Correction:

The Spectator would like to address an error in the March 31 article titled "Faculty, Students, Al Ham participate in America's Greatest Heart Run and Walk." The writer misidentified Professor of French John O'Neal as Edmund A. LeFevre Professor of English Emeritus and Lecturer in English. In addition, Colleen Pellman, Ernest Williams and Erin Glaser were co-captainions of the team with O'Neal and were not mentioned in the article. We apologize for the error.

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Paying tribute at the cost of tradition

There are many problems with the sudden changes made to the 2012-2013 academic calendar at this past Tuesday's faculty meeting. Many of these issues come from a frustrating disregard for student input. A motion passed at Tuesday's faculty meeting determined that the spring '13 semester will begin on the Tuesday following Martin Luther King Day. As a result of this change, classes will extend into what is now finals week and conclude with Class and Charter Day on a Monday instead of a Friday. While we appreciate that students will have until Wednesday night to study for finals, we also strongly object to the ramifications this vote has on Class and Charter Day.

The complete lack of student input with regard to this change is upsetting and concerning. Changes that have an effect on student life at Hamilton should contain some amount of student involvement. This is a change that will directly affect half the current student body, and students have a right to comment. There was no need to rush this calendar change, as it will come into effect over a year from now. It could easily have been discussed and debated by the student body along with the faculty to reach a conclusion that satisfies all parties.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is certainly an important American holiday and warrants Hamilton's recognition and commemoration. But if we are not holding classes on MLK Day, we should ask why we have class on Labor Day, which is an equally important federal holiday. Furthermore, it is likely that this change will not inspire any more community service work on the part of students. The rearranged schedule will most likely lead to students showing up to campus the day before classes start, at some point on Monday.

Additionally, this change will have a negative impact on a major cultural touchstone of Hamilton--Class and Charter Day. Class and Charter Day has been whittled down over the past few years, but the proposed changes would effectively eliminate the day altogether. There would be no more half day on the last day of classes, and the awards ceremony would not take place until 4 p.m. Hamilton students work exceptionally hard for 30 weeks a year, and they deserve a half-day at the end of classes to relax and, yes, party a little.

We see a solution that could alleviate all the problems with the current plan. The faculty should amend the calendar change to start the semester on the Friday before Martin Luther King Jr. Day. This day would be treated as a Monday for class schedule purposes. This way, students are on campus and able to volunteer for MLK Day. Additionally, the current schedule, with Class and Charter Day remaining on a Friday followed by a week-end buffer between classes and finals is maintained.

Going forward, significant changes to the schedule of this nature--and significant faculty initiatives in general--should involve student input. Students comprise the majority of the members of the campus community. Students already work with the administration through Student Assembly; they deserve a say in their schedule and other important issues which are managed via faculty meetings.

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Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

Nevertheless, *The Spectator* has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. The Spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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Forgotten nights remembered: The secrets of a social host

by Becca Mack '13
Opinion Writer

Did I ever think that there would be a downside to my much-anticipated 21st birthday? Of course not. According to the encyclopedic wonderland that is every college movie in existence, turning 21 means a new independence. Independence to buy alcohol, gamble, rent cars in certain states and, if you are super-duper lucky, to social host a Hamilton College party.

Of course, the responsibility of social hosting never crossed my mind before turning 21. As a naïve first-year, I believed that all-campus parties happened by magic: Kegs appeared at the end of rainbows, decorations and food bought themselves, and I had no reason to believe that, behind the scenes, there was a mystical person known as a social host who made it all happen.

The social host position is anything but a glorious one. The College mandates that every party held in one of the four designated social spaces on campus (the Annex, Bundy Dining Hall, the Bristol Hub and the ELS Basement) have at least one person present for the duration of the party who takes responsibility for the rest of the guests.

This lucky person ensures that the allotted alcohol is handled responsibly by students trained to judge whether a fellow student should be served, and that all other school rules are generally followed. And yes, this often requires said social host to remain sober for the duration of the party, even though social hosts are the students on campus who are actually of the legal drinking age.

When I reached the golden age in the September of my sophomore year, I thought that the world would be my oyster. Even after the two societies I am in demanded I get trained as a social host, I held onto my happy picture of a carefree existence.

After I recovered from my 21st birthday (I played some really active pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey), I attended social host training. Despite the fair warning I received during the training session, I still held onto my naïve first-year impressions of an automatically-managed party.

My first party as a social host, a simple and classy affair in the Hub, seemed to confirm that notion. The only true problem seemed to be witnessing the Franzia-induced dance moves.

Everything changed when I was put to the daunting task of baby-sitting the attendees of the annual Rocky Horror Picture Show party. You might have heard of this small shindig.

Dressed in outfits purposefully hidden from parents when returning home in order to avoid scarring conversations, seemingly inebriated students filed into the Annex, throwing their inhibitions and common sense out the window.

Yet, while most people can simply block their pictures posted on Facebook in order to erase the memory of their sloppy actions, I still remember every little detail. Every person who harassed those working the kegs, poured beer on my shoes and got a little bit upset when I had to kick them out for being a little too unreasonable, to put it lightly.

PICTURESOF.NET

So where am I trying to go with this? The social host is a vital element of safety at all-campus parties. While you might regret that seventh drink, social hosts make sure you don't regret waking up in piles of coats or that black eye you got for diving into the keg.

Though almost every member of a society, who is of age, performs social host duties, it is still a sacrifice. While it is by no means required that everyone 21 and over endure this tedious task, turning down the position is an even more daunting proposition than the actual role itself. The pressure that one feels from his or her society (or, in my case, two societies... lucky me!) is akin to the guilt one feels when looking into the eyes of a sad puppy.

Unlike the Event Staff, social hosts do not get paid for their sobriety or for dealing with a slew of Hamilton drunkards.

So all I am asking, my tipsy friends, is that the next time I ask you not to bring that full handle of tequila into the Annex men's room or not to attempt crowd-surfing, please do not just dump beer on my shoes and continue on your drunken way.

I am a person– a sadly sober person who does not find you nearly as amusing as you think you are– but still a person nonetheless. So please, be kind to your social hosts. Treat them well. If not, I'm calling Event Staff.

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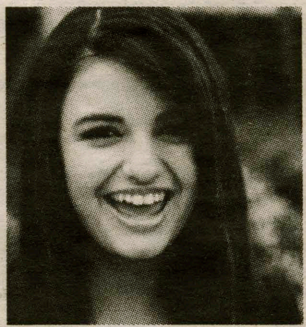


by [INSERT YOUR NAME HERE!]

E-mail spec@hamilton.edu with possible submissions for next week's column.

Hamilton should incorporate a Middle Eastern Studies major into its curriculum

by Scott Milne '14
Opinion Writer
and Joshua Yates '14
Opinion Contributor

Imagine for a moment that Hamilton is a bustling city. Skyscrapers called the Chinese and History departments dominate the skyline, and a diverse citizenry representing our various cultural departments frequent thriving shops run by the Economics department. Clean, wide highways shoot out from the city's borders like the sun's rays, allowing successful passage into just about any region of the world. The road to China is number one in the country, paved with gold, a road to behold. But the road leading to the Middle East is a ghastly sight; unpaved and narrow, many citizens are deterred from pursuing this back alley.

This seems like a strange metaphor, but it is appropriate. The course catalog is certainly an impressive collection of educational offerings. But there is an utter lack of courses that focus on the Middle East. One must sift through multiple departments for relevant classes (that may or may not be offered during the course of a year) with a collective scope that can best be described as limited. While multiple professors teach Chinese language from first-term through advanced levels, for example, Hamilton boasts only a single instructor of Arabic. Through this neglect, current students receive a limited education about the area, and prospective students interested in the Middle East will look elsewhere.

The Middle East is an incredibly rich and fascinating region that should be studied for its own sake, but it is also incredibly relevant to the current world climate. As Mirreille Koukjian, professor of Arabic, pointed out in an e-mail, the Middle East is the site of multiple U.S. wars, contains much of the world's oil supply and is the birthplace of Islam, Christianity and Judaism.Not to mention, the Arab-Israeli conflict is one of the most complicated and heartbreaking quarrels in the world today. We have now merely scratched the surface of the political, economic, cultural and social importance of the Middle East. All of these are consequential issues in contemporary American life, areas where educated Hamilton alumni could affect change. And this is the region Hamilton chooses to ignore in its curriculum?

But our criticism must be constructive to make a worthwhile change. Professor of History Shoshana Keller, relayed that she supports a heavier focus on the Middle East, but remained realistic. "To build a serious program we would need permanent, tenure-track faculty in several key fields: language study (Arabic and perhaps Persian or Turkish as well); religion; political science, history and ideally anthropology or economics," she wrote in an e-mail.

She also suggested the creation of some kind of Islamic World Studies program. This program would be a great addition to Hamilton's curriculum, since Islam has an incredibly storied history and continues to influence and explain the actions and policies of many countries in the Middle East. One cannot fully understand the Middle East without understanding Islam. But if Hamilton decides to travel a more traditional route, it should look to its peer institutions. NESCAC schools, such as Williams, Middlebury and Wesleyan, have Middle Eastern Studies programs. It is clear that this type of curriculum is well within reach of a small liberal arts institution.

Change is obviously not an overnight process, but Hamilton should begin courting accomplished professors who can teach these classes. In the meantime, many would appreciate the creation of a Middle Eastern Studies minor at Hamilton. This could simply be an aggregate of existing classes related to the Middle East, but a minor organized and endorsed by the College would be a great first step towards a greater program.

Ultimately, we want Hamilton to understand that its students want this addition. Not only do we sincerely want the chance to expand our knowledge and understanding of the Middle East, but also to reach out intelligently to an area that has been largely hostile to America for too long. We want to improve that metaphorical road between our two worlds. As idealist as it sounds, knowledge is power, and right now, Hamilton's connection to the Middle East is weak. But it can be strong with some simple changes to our curriculum.

Ten years down, a lifetime to go

THE POSSE FOUNDATION, INC.
Hamilton

by Chris Delacruz '13
Opinion Writer

The impact that Posse students have on the Hill is observable on a daily basis. Posse students hold leadership positions on campus, work crucial on-campus jobs, excel in academics and go on to be just, successful as other Hamilton students. Posse students are, in many ways, the heart of what Hamilton represents. On April 1, a dinner celebrating the ten year anniversary of Hamilton and Posse indicated that this is just the beginning of a long and thriving partnership.

The Posse Foundation, Inc began in the late 1980s after a young student dropped out of college, "I never would have dropped out of college if I had my posse with me."

This simple remark spurred the Foundation's organizers take a special group of talented high school students and sending them all to the same highly esteemed college or university. All expenses, including tuition, are provided by the Foundation. These bright young scholars not only succeed, but also support one another through the challenges of the undergraduate experience.

According to the Posse Foundation website, "Posse students are chosen based on their leadership ability, social status among peers, demonstrated ambition, ability to work with people of different backgrounds and desire to succeed. On campus the Posse program is successful because the students form a support group for each other and act as agents of social change by promoting dialogue on campus."

These same goals exist in the Hamilton admissions process, which exemplifies why Posse has proved itself such a great success here on the Hill.

ALL PHOTOS FROM HAMILTON.EDU

The Young People's Project posed for the Posse Newsletter.

The Posse Foundation's goals proved successful from the start. The first Posse scholars went to Vanderbilt University in 1989. These students all graduated with honors and accolades. Since then, Posse's success has only improved and gained more national attention.

Undergraduate admissions offices across the country have embraced the Posse program eagerly. Presently, the Posse Foundation has sent 3,638 scholars from all over the country to top-tier colleges and universities. Posse students throughout the nation are graduating at a rate of 90 percent, which is approximately 20 percent higher than the United States' average rate.

The Posse Foundation has three basic goals at its heart: First create greater diversity in the college application pool. Second, Posse works to help involved institutions build more interactive campus environments, so that they can be more welcoming for people from all backgrounds. Third, the organization ensures that Posse scholars fully embrace their academic programs and graduate with the hopes of obtaining strong leadership positions throughout their careers.

Cynthia Rodriguez '13 said: "Being a Posse Scholar and being at Hamilton has opened so many doors for me. It's great to have a support system on campus and a network of alumni more than willing to help us find internships and jobs in the future. The best part about Posse is that the relationships you make extend beyond your four years on campus."

The Posse Foundation has proven so successful that President Barack Obama recently donated about $125,000 of his $1.4 million Nobel Peace Prize to the Posse Foundation. The Posse Foundation at Hamilton College has shown just as much success as other Posse-affliated institutions. Hamilton first began its partnership with the Posse Foundation in 2001, by accepting a posse of students from the Boston area.

Hamilton has continued to accept a "posse" every year since. Recently Hamilton made the decision to enroll not only Posse students from Boston, but also from Miami. This increased influx of Posse students is a testament to the success of the program and Hamilton's commitment to need-blind admissions decisions.

Hamilton has been positively and strongly affected by the addition of Posse students, just as Posse students have been positively affected by all that Hamilton has to offer.

FROM WHERE I SIT
HAMILTON'S INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

PHOTO COURTESY OF SALOME KUCHUKHIDZE '14

by Salome Kuchukhidze '14
Features Contributor

Salome Kuchukhidze is a Hamilton first-year from Tbilisi, Georgia.

I remember how I used to hold my mom's hand as she was making her way through a crowd of people in the street market in Tbilisi, Georgia. From left and right, I could hear the farmers praise their products, trying to convince the potential customers that only they could offer the freshest and the most delicious foods among dozens of their colleagues. I distinctly remember the delicious juicy plums my mom and I would buy. All kinds of skeptic, rushing consumers would examine the apples, tomatoes, onions and every other food the farmers reaped on Georgian soil. Tossing and turning, smelling and tasting, complaining about prices and eventually moving on to the other eager seller. The farmers got furious and would cry their lungs out offering the product for half the price, but most of the time, all they could do was throw a jealous glance towards their lucky colleague who had managed to entice their lost customer. All this buzzing and fussing, yelling, complaining and elbowing around blended in a chaotic harmony and subsided somewhere in the depths of my memory.

This may be part of the reason why I cannot adjust to the precise arrangement of Walmart. An ordinary, concrete, rectangular building looks like a huge, grey box full of random order. The hydraulic door makes a sound and opens up against me. Inside, the unexpected abundance of products strikes me. Columns of canned vegetables, peanut butter jars, packets of candy and microwaveable dinners are miraculously piled up against the wall. I stroll down aisle after aisle. I see the huge packs of M&M's, shelves of Hershey, Allen's naturally liquid powder, rows of Campbell's soup cans and baskets of Dove soap bars all around me. Everything is squeezed into tiny packaging, compact, square or round shaped items as if to save time and space– all stuck into each every possible open space. I look around and there it is- the fruit department.

As I push my cart forward slightly, I consider whether I should buy oranges or plums. I see a pile of oranges in aisle nine and a pile of plums at the opposite end of the aisle. I slow down a little bit to take some time and think. I do like oranges. I think they taste fine. I am aware that they are full of nutrients and vitamins so they are good for me. That means that in the long run, oranges are better for me. They're also big, yellow and attractive; they would catch anyone's eye. On the other hand, I adore plums. I know it's a little weird to love plums. Plums are just plums; they are tiny and black and can be really sour. They don't even have a lot of vitamins in them. Plums are just sitting there and people go past them without noticing. I'd be better off picking oranges. That's what anyone would do. I slow down more and more as I move along the aisles. I can't just stop and stare back and forth from one aisle to the next. That would be awkward. I can't stay in the store forever either so I finally decide that I will never give up my plums for shiny oranges and I put them carefully in my cart, just as I used to in Georgia.

From Where I Sit ***is a column dedicated to the international voices of Hamilton's campus. If you are an international student and are interested in contributing a column, contact Barbara Britt-Hysell (bbritthy@hamilton.edu)***

Logic puzzle solution: admissions efficiency

by Russell Marcus
Professor of Philosophy

In our last puzzle you were asked to find the most efficient way for Admissions to give an information session (12 minutes) and a tour and an interview (30 minutes each) to three applicants. You have a receptionist and two interviewers/tour guides. Every tour and every interview must be preceded and followed by three minutes with the receptionist, who also gives the information sessions. In addition, I asked if you could speed the process by splitting one interview into two 15-minute segments.

My bruised ego aside, I am pleased to report that five submissions were more efficient than mine. Furthermore, the solution to the first question was so good that the answer to the second question is negative. The best solution, 99 minutes, was shared except for minor variations by Cooper Creagan '13, Andrew Harris '11, and Chris Smith '11. Other impressive solutions were submitted by Amelia Mattern '12 and Brandon Wilson '14. Cooper won in a random drawing among the three best solvers. Congratulations!

To see the details, visit: www.thatmarcusfamily.org/philosophy/HCPuzzles

Science Features

HEAG's corner: clean energy

by Bill Pedersen '13
HEAG Member

Today's society faces an energy crisis, as we recognize that our past reliance on fossil fuels is incompatible with an environmentally friendly future.

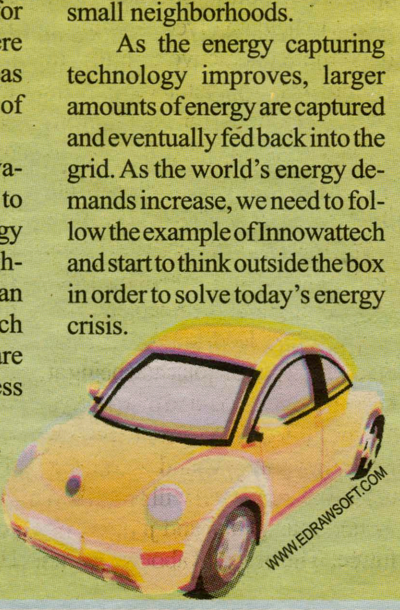
There have been many well-publicized initiatives to use more conventional alternative energy sources, such as wind and solar power, to meet today's growing demand for clean energy. However, there also are less-publicized ideas for creating new sources of energy.

One extremely innovative program is the attempt to convert the mechanical energy produced by cars on highways into power that we can use. Today, companies, such as Innowattech in Israel, are making incredible progress in this developing field.

Innowattech uses power-generating crystals placed five centimeters below the highway's surface to capture the energy produced by the weight of passing cars. This technology was originally tested along Route 4 in Israel, where it was able to capture 2000 watts of power per hour.

To put this in perspective, a desktop computer uses on average 200 watts per hour, so this is enough to run 100 computers for an hour. The energy is stored in batteries placed along the side of the highway and can be used to power street lights or small neighborhoods.

As the energy capturing technology improves, larger amounts of energy are captured and eventually fed back into the grid. As the world's energy demands increase, we need to follow the example of Innowattech and start to think outside the box in order to solve today's energy crisis.



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food at a snail's pace

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by Julia Litzky '12
Science and Technology Editor

This semester, Lauren Howe '13 and Eunice Choi '14 want you to start thinking about where your food comes from and how much processing it's undergone. The two have founded a chapter of Slow Food at Hamilton in hopes of raising awareness about where food comes from and the benefits of eating locally.

Their chapter is part of the international Slow Food organization, which provides an umbrella structure for a variety of projects working toward increasing biodiversity and sustainable agriculture, educating people on where their food comes from and the benefits of fresh, unprocessed food and providing a voice for small-scale producers.

As Choi explained, Slow Food's goals fit in well with many of the recent events on campus: "There's been lots of interest in food lately, but it's been splintering. We share a lot of common goals with other groups on campus and we want to bring these organizations together."

Choi's interest in founding the chapter developed after she took Professor of Biology David Gapp's Food for Thought class, which covers where food comes from and the politics behind the food industry. Howe said she realized the importance of slow food when working at an emergency food pantry for low-income citizens. The food that was being distributed contained few fresh fruits and vegetables.

Both hope that Hamilton's Slow Food chapter will help to raise awareness among students about where their food comes from and why that matters. As Howe explained, "We are one of the colleges that is lucky to already focus on this, but because a lot of the students are so privileged, they expect to see every fruit and vegetable all year round. There's a disconnect."

Howe and Choi believe their first event, an "eat-in" at McEwen Dining Hall on Sunday, April 10, can help remove this disconnect. The campus has been invited by email to join the Hamilton Slow Food chapter and the Mohawk Valley Slow Food chapter for a meal made from as many local ingredients as possible. The goal is to show students that they can still have a great meal without processed foods that must be shipped from far away, which have a high environmental impact. A screening of two movies that discuss the food industry will follow the dinner. In addition, Slow Food will host a Think Tank lunch on April 29, during which Professor Gapp will discuss the science of genetically modified foods.

Another project that Slow Food is undertaking this semester is helping the Martin Luther King Elementary School in Utica to acquire funding and found a garden on its campus. MLK is the poorest school in the Utica area and has the highest rate of diabetes among its students. Many of the children are in the free lunch program; therefore, many of the children eat lunches provided by the school, and so would benefit from having an in-school source of fresh produce.

The garden would also provide an educational tool that will teach students where food comes from and the importance of eating local and fresh produce for their health. Howe explains, "We hope that by getting their hands dirty and growing something they can touch and is tangible to them, they'll be inspired to eat better."

Up in smoke: Yelling "fire" in the Career Center highlights partnership between Hamilton and Clinton

by Claire E. Carusillo '13
Features Editor

Smoke billowed, alarms rang and heavy boots clattered, but everything was predetermined, planned and completely under control. Despite the realistic show, the Clinton Fire Department's (CFD) presence on March 28 in the smoky former Career Center building was a simulation. The CFD installed a non-toxic smoke machine in the building after the department's relocation to Bristol Center in order for local firefighters to practice their emergency response system in a controlled environment.

Fran Manfredo, director of campus safety, said that he called 911 to alert the operators that if any callers reported a fire at Hamilton College, it was just a drill. When the smoke cleared, the campus understood that the CFD's presence on the Hill is essential to safety on campus.

In order to promote collaboration, Hamilton offers the use of abandoned buildings to the Clinton police forces and fire department, including the philosophy building for a drill this coming June.

"We recognize sometimes that we have these buildings and that gives them the opportunity to drill and I know they're very appreciative of us offering up to them certain buildings on campus," Manfredo said.

The productive relationship between Manfredo, Bill Huggins, associate director of physical plant and Clark Young, chief of Clinton Fire Department, leads to the sharing of resources and energy between the College and the village, as in the case of CFD and Hamilton College Emergency Medical Services (HCEMS) fielding emergency calls.

Manfredo commented, "I know the chief very well. I have a kind of relationship with him, so it's very easy for me to call him and tell him [when we have facilities available]."

Dialogue between Hamilton and the CFD facilitates drills such as the one held on March 28. The CFD responds to pulled fire alarms, smoke detectors and emergency calls for the entire campus.

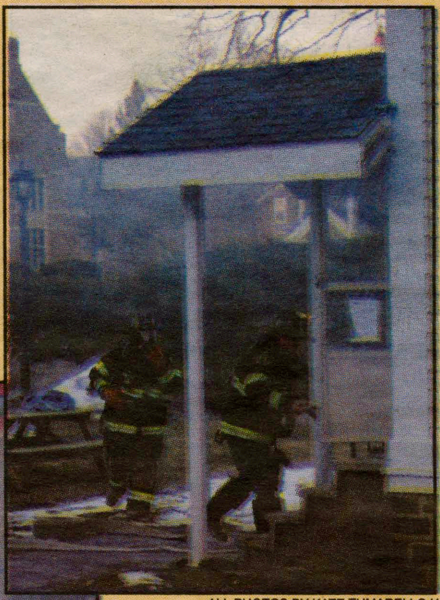
In 2010, Hamilton called the CFD a total of 111 times and they responded to calls 76 times. Manfredo explained that the CFD is always notified of fire alarms, but on occasion the situation does not warrant fire department response (i.e., if someone burnt popcorn, Campus Safety would notify the CFD of the reason behind the fire alarm, and the CFD ultimately makes the decision whether or not to respond in each situation).

Manfredo explained that fire alarms that are pulled on a semi-frequent basis are attended to by volunteer firemen. While students lament getting out of bed in the middle of the night, Manfredo looks at the matter differently. "[The CFD] gets people out of their beds to respond to calls. They respond up here and they investigate...I guess that's the dedication of the volunteer firefighters, whether at two in the morning or two in the afternoon," he said.

Sharing of responsibility between student volunteers, the Village and the College creates a safer environment. "The service HCEMS provides is invaluable to this community. HCEMS responded to 213 medical calls in 2010 and without their service, the fire department would have been on the campus for many of those calls," said Manfredo.

Considering that contributions to the Village also benefit the College, Hamilton assisted the fire department in purchasing new equipment. Young explained, "Last year, [the CDF] purchased a new fire truck and Hamilton donated $250,000. That truck cost $1,000,000 in total and that was a huge and heartfelt gift."

As the administration and the Village work together to achieve a greater sense of security, the relationship becomes less about donations, gifts and late night phone calls, and more about mutual trust. "The relationship between the town and the school is great," said Young. "I can't see how it would better."



ALL PHOTOS BY KATE TUMARELLO '11

Above, the Clinton Fire Department enters the simulated fire in the old Career Center. Left, firefighters gather to evaluate response.

Staff Profile: Dave Eng

The man behind the emails discusses the College, comedy and faking his own death

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVE ENG

by Emily T. Gerston '11
Features Editor

This is part of a series on the staff and employees of Hamilton College. This series is an attempt to foster communication between faculty, staff, employees and students to create a more cohesive Hamilton community.

This is part of an interview with Dave Eng. For the complete interview, visit our website at http://students.hamilton.edu/spectator

What is your job title? What exactly does your job entail?

I am the Assistant Director of Student Activities and am in charge of advising most clubs and organizations as well as the Campus Activities Board. Some students think that the only thing that I do on campus is organize parties where there is free pizza and wings. That is incorrect. Organizing free pizza/wings parties is only half of what I do.

How long have you worked at Hamilton for?

I started on July 1, 2009. While I was in Commons having lunch on my first day I was "introduced" to the Streaking Team.

Why did you start working at Hamilton?

I was studying Student Affairs Administration at NYU and was working part time in student activities at Fordham University as a graduate assistant. After my program ended I began looking for jobs in student activities and knew that I wanted to be at a really cool institution that was located on a hill. I also had a coupon for a free upgrade from all-weather to snow tires. That pretty much sealed the deal.

Have you held any other jobs at Hamilton? If so, what?

During this past orientation (Fall 2010) I rode around campus dressed as a hot dog.

What can Hamilton community members do to make your day happy?

One of two things:

Thing #1: Whenever you see me in person I should receive a salutation in the form of a high-five. No more. No less.

Things #2: Whenever I am not around the question that should be on everyone's mind is "Hey, where is Dave Eng?"

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Performing Improv at the Salt City Improv Theater in Syracuse and playing paintball with the Hamilton College Paintball Club at Headrush Action Sports Park.

We hear rumors you're leaving us next year. What's the deal?

Yup, I'm working as the Coordinator of Student Activities on Semester at Sea for the fall 2011 trans-equatorial voyage. I'll be on a ship with 650 students for the next 111 days visiting 14 different countries!

You mention on your website that you are an actor and comedian. Will you be displaying your skills for the Hamilton community?

I like to say that I infuse humor in everything I do (even if you can't see or hear it at first).

What is your favorite memory of your time at Hamilton?

The time I dressed up as Wally for FebFest, challenged, and subsequently defeated Al Ham in an improvised break dancing competition.

Have you ever faked your own death?

Yes, when I was a sophomore I took a design class and was assigned a project to create a flyer and distribute 200 copies of it around campus addressing some social issue that was affecting the college.

I asked my professor if I could make one BIG flyer using 200 sheets of paper instead of just many copies of the same flyer. Luckily he was cautiously optimistic and agreed with my idea of creating a billboard-sized memorial using printer sized sheets of paper as pixels in the mural. It was a picture of myself along with an "RIP 1983-2003" and a note that I had died because of binge drinking. I put it up at night on the side of a building that I will affectionately call our version of "KJ." It ended up being 30' long by 15' high. The following day I proceeded to get a slew of interesting calls about my demise – most notably from the Dean of Students. I didn't get in trouble – but my project ended up sparking a good dialogue on campus about the dangers surrounding binge drinking.

Commons, Diner or McEwen, and why?

Commons only at 11:30 a.m., Diner only at 11 a.m., McEwen only at 11:40 a.m. – through a series of complex algorithms, celestial observations and divine insight I have determined that these are the best times to get my sushi, chicken fingers and sandwich in the least amount of time.

April's Bachelor and Bachelorette

Bachelor and Bachelorette is a monthly feature highlighting some of Hamilton's most eligible students. If you're interested in being the Bachelor or Bachelorette of the Month, contact ccarusil@hamilton.edu or egerston@hamilton.edu

Brad Muldrow '11

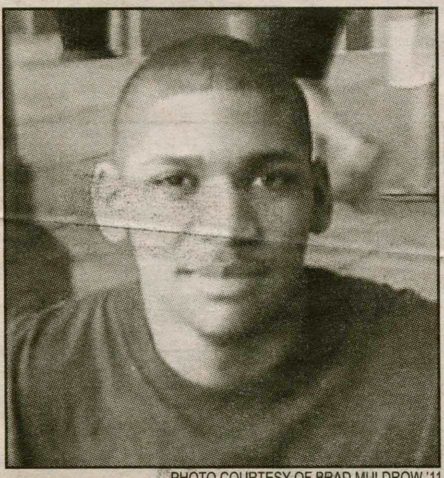


PHOTO COURTESY OF BRAD MULDROW '11

Hometown: Buffalo, N.Y.

Major: Psychology.

Turn On: People who make up words, Televisioners, Manhattan SVU.

Turn Off: Graduating, non-Tweeters, anyone who teaches "The Dougie" (shame on you).

What is your worst habit? Whipping my hair back and forth. I'm seeing a specialist.

If you were a dorm, which would you be and why? Babbitt. Isn't it obvious? We're like the same person!

If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, which would you pick and why? Flavor Flav and Wendy Williams because whenever I... actually, that image is just too disgusting for me to continue. I apologize if you are eating while you read this.

If you were God, what would be the first thing you'd do to the world? Make KJ atrium a social space.

If you had to create a new points system, what would be the number one offense? Speaking during *Law & Order: SVU*. RAs would go on call every Wednesday at 10 p.m. to ensure that violators are punished to the full extent of the point system.

What advertising slogan best describes your life? "Where You At?" (I get lost a lot)

What movie genre best describes you? Romantic Dramedy. I'm complex.

What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? Do you believe in love at first sight, or should I walk by again?

If you could have any super power, what would it be and why? Infinite bonus meals.

What is your hidden talent? Biking over ice and snow... but I'm sure you already know that.

What is your spirit animal and why? I don't know what a spirit animal is, but my Patronus would be Shaquille O'Neal.

If you were a cold cut, which would you be and why? Mortadella, because it's a classy version of bologna.

If you were any social space, what would it be and why? KJ Atrium. I'm not letting this go. It'd be the perfect social space!

If you could get rid of one group on campus, what would it be and why? Duelly Noted. Come on Tom, just auto-tune me, and I'd be great!

What would you say is your most attractive quality? My inability to do nothing imperfectly. It's pretty awesome.

If you could trade jobs with anyone at Hamilton for a day, what would it be? Judy from McEwen. Because I'm not employed, I could have her job for a day and she could have a day off. Win/win.

If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? I would never break a rule at Hamilton! I love rules! ([cough] ask me again in six weeks when I graduate and can't lose my RA job)

Who would you say is your campus crush? If Claire from *Heroes* actually went to Hamilton, I'd be better prepared to answer that question.

What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? My unopened box of T.O.'s (Terrell Owens's limited edition Buffalo Bills cereal)

Amanda Pichardo '14

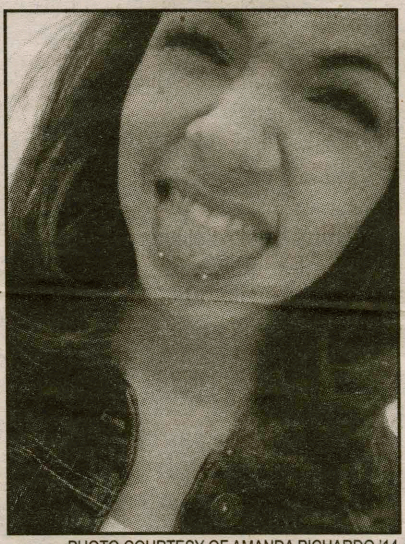


PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA PICHARDO '14

Hometown: Staten Island, N.Y.

Major: Philosophy and Theatre?

Turn On: Mysterious and nice swag. Someone that makes me look twice.

Turn Off: Most guys at Hamilton.

What is your worst habit? Biting my nails.

If you were a dorm, which would you be and why? Rogers, because I have a lot to offer, but I'm a trip.

If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, which would you pick and why? Lady Gaga and Nicki Minaj, because I'm tough like Nicki, and artsy and weird like Gaga.

If you were God, what would be the first thing you'd do to the world? Free Diner B for everyone!

If you had to create a new points system, what would be the number one offense? Wearing pinnies...they're not freakin' shirts bro.

What advertising slogan best describes your life? "I'm a free bitch, baby!"

What movie genre best describes you? Dark comedy.

What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? "Hey, I just realized this, but you look a lot like my next girlfriend."

If you could have any super power, what would it be and why? Teleportation. I hate long bus/train rides. And sometimes I just wanna be anywhere but Hamilton.

What is your hidden talent? Photography.

What is your spirit animal and why? A cougar, because younger guys seem to be attracted to me.

If you were a cold cut, which would you be and why? CHEESE, I loveeee cheeeeeese!

If you could get rid of one group on campus what would it be and why? Greeks... "What am I paying for again?"

If you could join one group on campus, what would it be and why? The Buffers, I always wanted to be a buff-ette.

What would you say is your most attractive quality? My eyes.

If you could trade jobs with anyone at Hamilton for a day, what would it be? Working at the Diner, it's truly my dream job.

If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it which would you choose? Having a car on campus. My Lamborghini Reventon misses me.

What would you give a thumbs up? The Diner.

What would you give a thumbs down? Lightweights.

Who would you say is your campus crush? Bennett Schneider, according to Mark Cryer.

Who would you say is your faculty crush? Crystal Endsley... she gives the best spoken word performances that I've ever seen!

What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? My portable hair dryer cap that connects to my blow dryer.

Thomas and Weber falter at the Coffeehouse

PHOTOS BY KATE TUMMARELLO '11

Thomas has played with artists such as Sufjan Stevens.

by Taylor Coe '13
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Rosie Thomas's Acoustic Coffeehouse performance last Thursday is neatly reflected in James Monger's All Music review of her album *If Songs Could Be Held*, which shrewdly notes that Thomas's music "wouldn't sound out of place spilling from the ceiling of an extremely popular coffeehouse chain." Not that this is necessarily negative; her music is smart and sad, but, as unkindly as it may sound, it could serve mostly as window decoration.

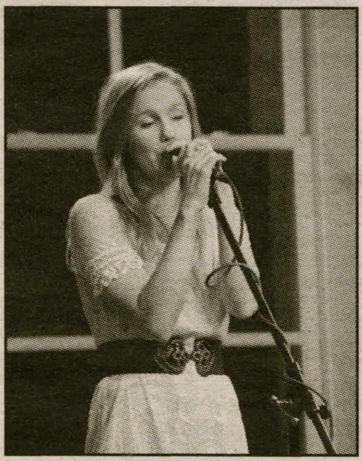
Preceding Thomas was fledgling singer-songwriter Grace Weber, backed by her co-writer and pianist Julian Pollack. Awkward and unsure of what to do with her hands, Weber accompanied her trite lyrics with equally trite hand gestures—tossing a hand to the ceiling as she belted out a cliché about the moon. The temptation would be to offer her a guitar, but I'm not sure that's the solution; she might end up rocking back and forth with every strum, the victim of a Nova Scotia sea shanty. The solution lies in staidness, in maybe putting her hands in her pockets.

Weber's smooth voice ended up carrying the performance—but even tacking Pollack's expressive piano arrangements onto her silky voice could not overcome the quality of her lyrics. Describing her songwriting process with Pollack, Weber said, "I'll tell Julian to just play something on the piano and then I'll start improvising to that and then words just start coming out just as the melody does." Some artists pursue this more freeform pursuit of lyrics, but I am not sure it works for Weber.

Rosie Thomas, as aforementioned, was pleasant in comparison. She was no firecracker, but she had her moments. Her set, oddly enough, was saved through her inimitable sense of humor—complaining how closely New York City sometimes resembles Detroit and discussing her addiction to infomercials. But none of this humor evinced itself in the course of her music; her set-list was one sad love song after another with not so much as a passing funny detail.

The juxtaposition between humor and sadness was what made her set so uncomfortable to watch. I would not hesitate to vouch for the careful beauty of her singing voice, but everyone was left confused by the absurd squeakiness of her speaking voice. How such diametrically opposed sounds could emerge from the same throat remains a mystery to me. The difference was so marked that I could not help but wonder if the voice and accompanying humor was all an act.

Ultimately, the show remained exactly what it seemed to be: pleasant—but merely that. It had no moments of disgust, but it also had no moments of what I lightly term musical transcendence. Putting it simply, I felt rather bored.



Weber will release her debut album later this year.

Scan the QR Code above or go to http://students.hamilton.edu/spectator/the-scoop to access a photo slideshow and audio interview with Grace Weber and Julian Pollack.

Choir ends tour on high note

by Hannah Grace O'Connell '14
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

Latecomers walking into Wellin Hall were momentarily confused by the sudden swell of music that seemed to come from every direction, before realizing that the melody came from above. At the conclusion of the opening song, "Coelos Ascendit Hodie," the members of the Hamilton College Choir descended from the rafters for a captivating start to a compelling final performance of their spring choir tour.

Under the direction of G. Roberts Kolb, the Hamilton College Choir performed a variety of songs to an enthusiastic audience with one final Spring Tour concert on last Friday at 8 p.m. in Wellin Hall. The unique introduction was not the only time the choir used the entire space of Wellin Hall to create a resonance of voices. For their next song, the quiet and reflective "Sanctus," a group of four singers stood midway back in Wellin, echoing their airy melody to the main choir on stage. One of the more interesting musical selections of the night was the sequence of three musical interpretations of Psalm 98.

In an interlude occurring about halfway through the show, various smaller groups within the choir had the chance to perform. The College Hill Singers performed a selection of Italian madrigal pieces from the 16th century before concluding with the more modern "Over the Rainbow." The quartet Half and Half embodied old-fashioned crooning with "May I Never Love Again," and second quartet The Bad Golfers sang an upbeat rendition of "It's a Good Day." Before the entire choir reconvened on stage, a capella group Duelly Noted surprised the audience with the 1950s favorite, "Why Do Fools Fall in Love?"

After these short pieces, the entire choir returned for James Stephens' "Reincarnations," a series of two love songs broken up by a three-part canon lament. The crowd also got to hear "Six Chansons (Rainer Maria Rilke)" composed by Hindemith, which included the movements "La Biche (The Doe)," "Un Cygne (The Swan)," "Puisque tout passe (Since All is Passing)," "Printemps (Springtime)," "En Hiver (In Winter)" and "Verger (Orchard)." The show ended strongly with a medley of traditional spirituals.

The concert was the culmination of a week of touring as far south as the Carolinas during spring break. The group performed in a different city each day, starting in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania on March 12 and continuing through to Richmond, Virginia; Columbia, South Carolina; Charleston, South Carolina; Chapel Hill, North Carolina and Washington D.C., before concluding in Princeton, New Jersey on March 18 and finishing two weeks later in Wellin.

"Choir tour was a great experience: a way to have fun performing with friends, meet alumni and travel new places. I can't wait to do it again next year," Madison Malone Kircher '14 said.

PHOTO BY ALEX KAPLAN '13

The College Choir on a leg of their spring break tour.

Spike Lee talk is rescheduled

by Daniel O'Kelly '14
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

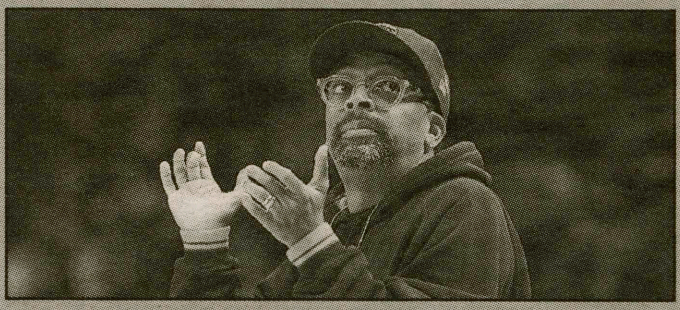
From the streets of Bedford-Stuyvesant to the recent travails of post-Katrina New Orleans, Spike Lee has been a vital, racially conscious voice in recent cinema. Postponed last Monday, Spike Lee's lecture has been rescheduled to Wednesday, April 13 at 8:30 p.m. in Wellin Hall.

The lecture, part of the C. Christine *Voices of Color* lecture series, honors Christine Johnson, a former Director of the Higher Education Opportunity Program. She was firmly dedicated to the Hamilton community and the school's students of color. This lecture hosts distinguished public figures of color and creates a platform on which they can discuss what it's like to be a person of in their respective professional fields. In 2001, intellect Dr. Darlene Clark Hines celebrated W.E.B. Du Bois' "Souls of Black Folk" one hundred years after it was published; in 2007, MTV's Suchin Pak discussed what it was like to be an Asian-American women in the entertainment industry; the following year, the former Sudanese child soldier, Emmanuel Jal, shared the story of his childhood and the sense of hope he found through the power of religion and music. Spike Lee will seek to join this list of esteemed speakers as he shares his own story.

Spike Lee has revolutionized black artistry in Hollywood. As an actor, producer, writer and director, he has dealt with important issues concerning race relations, the role of media in modern society, poverty and gender identity. An important figure in using film to help spread the images of Hurricane Katrina's effect on New Orleans, he remains committed to highlighting the importance of combating global change.

Even when he attended New York University, Lee was already gaining recognition for his shrewd and pertinent films. *She's Gotta Have It* examines crime in urban areas and *Malcolm X* traces the life of the African-American activist. His documentaries include *4 Little Girls*, the story of the 16 Street Baptist Church bombings in Birmingham, Alabama and *Kobe Doin' Work*, in which Lee analyzes one of the NBA's most valuable players and expresses his own love of basketball.

Given his eclectic interests, one is likely to find Mr. Lee talking to high school students in New York City or Chicago, debating the importance of Afrocentricity in film or actively engaging on the front lines at a New York Knicks game. Next Wednesday, April 13, Lee will talk about his own life, how he became such an esteemed figure, the importance of media today and where he thinks the film industry will go next. Following his presentation, students and faculty will participate in a question and answer session.



CBC.CA

Ardent Knicks fan Spike Lee cheers on the team.

Who knew that alumni were funny?

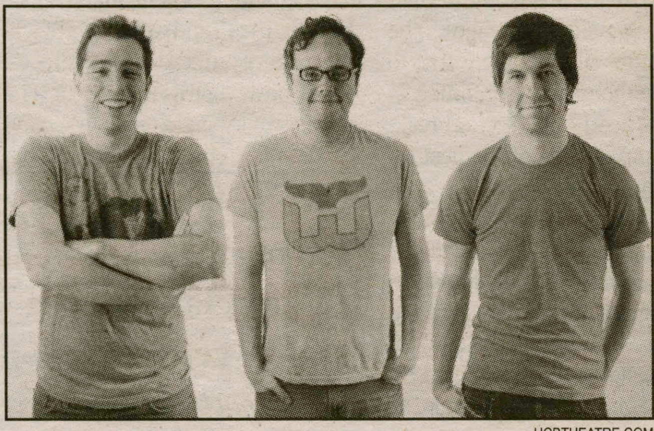
by Taylor Coe '13
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

The premise of a Hamilton Alumni Comedy show seemed a little strange at first. Of all the professions I envisioned when coupled with the words "Hamilton alumni," neither stand-up comedian nor sketch-comedy troupe was among them. Despite my assumptions, Katey Healy-Wurzburg '05, Justin Tyler '01, Selena Coppock '02, Chris Sessa '06 and Liza Rothschild '08 stormed the Events Barn last Saturday night for an hour and a half of stand-up and sketch comedy.

Misguided though my alumni expectations were, four of the five alumni still hold day jobs in addition to their work in comedy—Coppock is a book editor for Barnes and Noble, Sessa and Rothschild are in ad-sales and Healy-Wurzburg works in administration for a biotech company. Seen in light of their day jobs, the idea of comedian alums no longer seems so outlandish or impossible. The only member without a day job (though he bar tends once a week) is Tyler, who works with his sketch comedy group Sidecar—from which he also brought non-alumni Alden Ford and Emily Axford.

"I have a nine-to-five, but ideally I want to not do that," said Coppock. "I want to work in the [comedy] industry and be paid to do what I love." Tyler, as far as the other alums are concerned, seems to be living the dream. Tyler's recent success is due both to his work at the UCB Theatre in New York City as well as his voice-over work. Recently, Tyler became the new voice of Comcast, as heard in the 30-second television spots with Jane Lynch.

As the informal host of the comedy show, Tyler demonstrated why he is able to live off his comedy and voice-over work. He has quite a voice—not like the soporific baritone of movie trailers—but a friendly voice, maybe the voice of a reasonable friend. Then there is the brand of humor, which is—in a complimentary sense—kind of dorky. Deus ex machina jokes? Birds-and-the-bees conversations?


UCBTHEATRE.COM
From left, Justin Tyler '01, with other members of Sidecar, non-alums Matt Fisher and Alden Ford.

Tyler's work, of course, is rooted in improv and sketch comedy, not in the traditional stand-up routine that other alumni offered. Healy-Wurzburg, another occasional UCB performer, probably had the best stand-up set, including a discursive bit about menstruation, setting the gross-out bar high for the night; her contribution was matched only by Sessa's insistence on telling a joke about mandatory prison rape with the goal of lowering the crime rate. But Sessa's joke floundered in comparison with Healy-Wurzburg's matter-of-fact dirty language. Sessa tried to play along with the audience, whereas Healy-Wurzburg simply told it like it was—I never got the impression that she cared if she was funny or not.

Throughout the night, the performers attempted to weave Hamilton-specific humor into their material; the references mostly seemed pointed to a general collegiate audience until Coppock assumed the stage. A segment about Campus Security led into a narrative about an ill-timed streaking odyssey across the main quad. Coppock's story would have been good anywhere, but Hamilton geography and institutional understandings certainly helped.

Stand-up and sketch comedians often get a bad rap. Sometimes they come off as offensive; sometimes they come off as crazy or neurotic. But the alumni comedians dispelled these apparent shortcomings.

"I think stand-up is an analytical exercise—so I think you are self-aware and analytical somewhat—which can be misconstrued as neurotic potentially," said Coppock. "I think it's just sort of about being thoughtful about things."

So while we may not receive any concrete knowledge listening to Katey Healy-Wurzburg's stand-up set, we can certainly tap into a mind not our own. I certainly had not pictured a New York subway as a "rape submarine," but I don't doubt that the image

WHCL
Cover to Cover:
Friday, 10-11 a.m.

Jack McManus '13

On Cover to Cover, my mission is to play your favorite song in a way you've never heard it before. I've scoured record stores and the internet to find some of the most bizarre, beautiful and hilarious re-interpretations of classic and familiar songs, from acoustic covers of "Baby Got Back" to Phish performing "MmmBop" in the style of James Brown. On Friday mornings at 10, expect the unexpected.

Cover Picks from Jack:

"Straight Out of Compton"
- Nina Gordon

ALLSTARPICS.NET

Even though she only tackles Ice Cube's opening verse, Gordon's delicate acoustic guitar and angelic voice strike an absolutely hilarious contrast to NWA's provocative lyrics about gang violence. She sounds like a dangerous and foul-mouthed Natalie Merchant.

"Drain You"
- Horse Feathers

MUZZLEOFBEES.COM

This band brings their unique folky banjo and string-quartet sound to one of Kurt Cobain's masterpieces, stripping away all the angst and distorted guitars to reveal its hidden elegance.

"Beautiful Girls"
- Deer Tick

ALLOVERALBANY.COM

On their hipster version of this mega-hit single, Deer Tick keep the "Stand By Me" bass line but trade in the track's slick production for jangly indie-rock guitars and raspy, emotionally distraught vocals, reflecting the tone of the lyrics better than Kingston does.

Are you a WHCL DJ? Want your show featured in the WHCL column?

Please e-mail tcoe with a show description, your favorite albums and the reason why.

A&E weekly schedule

sponsored by the Hamilton College Democrats:

Comedian Dean Obeidallah

Tuesday, April 12 at 7:00 p.m. Events Barn

SPIKE LEE Films presented by:

VCLS
TBA
Sunday, April 10 at 4 p.m.

She Hate Me
Monday, April 11 at 7 p.m.

SK Films
Do The Right Thing
Thursday, April 7 at 7 p.m.

When the Levees Broke
Thursday, April 7 at 10 p.m.

All films will be shown in the KJ Auditorium

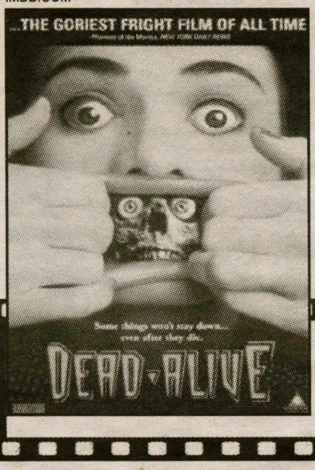
KAC Coffeehouse with Hawker & Schwartz:
Friday, April 8 at 8 p.m.

Tickets $18 for members, $15 for non-members

Ginny Hawker & Tracy Schwartz

Lecture/demo on Southern Appalachian Folk music
Friday, April 8 at noon in Schambach 201

Late Movie:
Dead Alive
10 p.m.

IMDB.COM


KJ Aud April 8-10

Early Movie:
After Hours
7 p.m.

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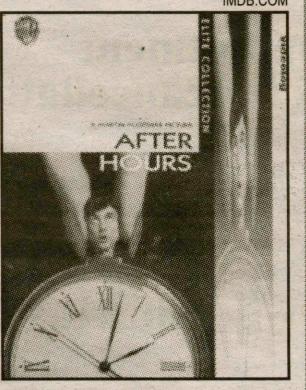

SK Films

PHOTO BY KEVIN PRIOR '13

Senior captain Sarah Bray prepares to enter First Home.

Impressive win over Middlebury

from Lacrosse, page 16

to have huge momentum." Friedman tallied a season high five goals and senior captain Sarah Bray contributed four goals and three assists, which helped lead the team to a 16-6 victory. Nicole Nietlisbach '13 made a career-high nine saves.

The Continentals face Vassar and Rensselaer, their first liberty league opponents this weekend. Paige Engeldrum '13 said that "coming off a big win, hopefully we'll continue to play like we did against Middlebury especially opening up our league play this weekend."

The team takes the field against Vassar on Friday at 4 p.m. and Rensselaer on Saturday at 3 p.m.

Crew enters Spring season with convincing victory

by Cooper Creagan '13
Sports Writer

Despite last week's less-than-ideal training conditions, a common occurrence in Clinton, NY, the men and women of the Hamilton crew teams have begun their spring season with a bang. Both teams handily beat Tufts last Sunday in their respective varsity-eight races. The race at Tufts allowed the teams to showcase the results of training in Tampa for nearly all of spring break.

"Tampa is one of the best locations in the country to train over spring break," said Coach Eric Summers. Summers said that the teams not only benefited from the warm Florida weather, but also from the competitive atmosphere: "A number of other teams including Colgate, St. Lawrence, and Union were there as well which made for a great atmosphere." The rowers didn't have to wait long for a chance to compete; many of them raced several times throughout the Tampa Mayor's Cup Regatta.

"Our goals for the regatta were to have our athletes race as much as possible and go after the team points trophy," said Coach Summers. "We accomplished both goals and I thought everyone raced very well."

Racing 15 boats throughout the day, Hamilton certainly did not fail to race "as much as possible." Indeed, the high volume of racing earned the athletes another extremely rewarding achievement: each person on the team earned a medal. For Summers, this was "one of the most satisfying things about this race."

Even this early in the season, many of the boats put out great performances. Summers remarked, "I thought our women's varsity-four, our novice-four and our men's varsity-eight all had very solid races." Both the men's and women's novice-four boats won their respective races, as did the women's varsity-four. The men's varsity-eight came in second to Tampa Preparatory School, but managed to edge out St. Lawrence by less than a second. After their success in Florida, it was finally time for the teams to head back up to the icy north.

> "We will be looking for revenge against Union later in the year."
> - *Coach Summers*

"It has been a tough week since we got back from Tampa," said Summers. "The Erie Canal up in Rome where we row has been frozen so we did not get very much water time last week."

Training primarily with ergs for the week, the teams had difficulty maintaining the momentum they had built in Florida: "It was clear this weekend that the lack of water time hindered our performance. We raced at a lower cadence compared to the competition and looked a little rough with our technique."

Despite all the challenges, however, Hamilton managed to perform admirably against Union last Saturday. Only the men's varsity-eight boat lost to Union and Summers is sure that those athletes "will be looking for revenge against Union later in the year at the New York State Championships." The men didn't let the loss affect them the next day when they beat Tufts' varsity-eight boat by 24 seconds. "I was very pleased with our performance on Sunday against Tufts. To win against their varsity-eights was a big step for our program," said Summers. The women's-eight also enjoyed victory over Tufts.

The Tulane University men and the University of Vermont women competed at Tufts, as well. Unfortunately, Hamilton's limited time in the water hindered them greatly against these teams, the men losing to Tulane and the women to Vermont. "If we had a few more days on the water," said Summers. "I think we would have seen much closer races with Tulane and UVM." As the weather gets warmer, the athletes will definitely get the extra time on the water that they are looking for. Given the difficult conditions under which they raced Union and Tufts, one can only expect even greater accomplishments once they actually get their feet wet, without having to worry about them freezing off.

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Campus largely unaffected by bracket craze

from March Madness, page 16

always an underdog making noise. On day one, 13th-seeded Morehead State knocked off perennial powerhouse Louisville on a three-pointer with 4.2 seconds left. Eighth-seeded Butler beat Old Dominion on a layup at the buzzer and put together an impressive run for the second straight season, only to lose to Connecticut in the National Championship game.

UConn, the third seed, was an even greater success story. Carried by superstar junior guard Kemba Walker, the Huskies went from a middle-of-the-road Big East team during the regular season to a conference champion and, finally, a national champion.

The two teams that rounded out the Final Four were Kentucky and Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). Kentucky, a fourth seed that was basically ignored in a bracket that boasted powerhouses Ohio State, North Carolina and Syracuse, nearly lost to Princeton on day one. 11th-seeded VCU was not even selected as one of the first 64 teams in the tournament - they had to win a play-in game against USC just to gain entry into the main pool of 64.

The tournament is awe-inspiring - that's a fact. So how can we create more interest in March Madness on campus? One thing events staff could do is hold the same events for the tournament as it does for Monday Night Football: screenings and free food at the Sadove Center and beer specials at the Pub. Who doesn't want free food from Pizza Place or Lil' Tex Mex?

> **"It could be a fun campus-wide activity for many people to get involved in."**
> *- Matt Gabriel '11*

Gabriel suggested a campus-wide bracket challenge. It makes perfect sense, because everyone already does a bracket anyways. A bracket challenge would not only provide a unique way for the student body to bond together upon returning from spring break, but also offer a lucrative fundraising opportunity for many student-led organizations on campus. It does not seem particularly difficult to implement, because it's hard to peel your eyes away once you witness one great finish to an NCAA Tournament game. Gabriel put it best: "The individual success stories as well as the widespread Cinderella school stories are both heart wrenching and inspiring."

It won't take much to get everybody juiced. In the words of the Joker, "Madness is like gravity. All it needs is a little push."

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Even President Obama finds the time to fill out a bracket every year.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL ARROYO '14

Men's track leaves competition behind

from Men's Track, page 16

to come away with strong showings in almost every event.

The top performers were in the track events, as both Bickard and James Grebey '12 proved their prowess in long-distance running. Grebey dashed to a first place finish in the 1,500-meter run with a time of 4:06.59 - almost six seconds faster than any of his competitors.

Bickard posted another strong performance with a time of 15:25.42 in the 5,000 meter run. Although this was slower than his indoor performance a month earlier, Bickard was still able to capture first place out of the 25 athletes who competed. One of the other competitors was Hamilton sophomore Hashem Zikry, who, in fact, placed second with a time of 15:46.73.

Sophomore Jeremy Blackburn '13 carried the Continentals in the sand pit and placed second in the triple jump with a distance of 12.76 meters.

Hamilton's throwers also excelled in their first meet back. Matthew Peterfreund '14, Ricardo Welch '14 and Josh Orndorff '11 all qualified for NESCACs. Welch and Peterfreund both competed in the javelin, finishing fifth and seventh with distances of 43.47 and 41.96 meters respectively.

Peterfreund remarked that although the conditions were less than optimal, "the team threw long and hard the entire day, despite the bitter wind and cold."

Orndorff led the group by meeting the qualifying distance in all three of his events. He placed third in both the shot put and the hammer with distances of 13.81 and 42.61 meters, respectively. Orndorff also put up an impressive showing in the discus with a fifth place finish of 34 meters.

According to Orndorff, the success of the first meet, "is a testament to the long hours our throwing squad has been logging in the weight room and the strong team environment that our throwing squad has."

Orndorff attributes his personal success to the feedback he has received from his coach, as well as his young, fellow throwers. Last year, Orndorff was the lone thrower for both the men's and women's teams, but he is now joined by a squad of first-years.

The Continentals are on the road this weekend as they travel to University of Rochester on Saturday, April 9 for another invitational. Members of the team who have already qualified for NESCACs, like Orndorff, look to keep improving on their personal bests in order to qualify for the NCAA Championships.

Women's track: Previous success carries over into new season

by Josh Orndorff '11
Sports Writer

In the first meet of the outdoor season, the middle distance runners of the women's track team took the momentum of a strong finish during the indoor season and carried it with them into last Saturday's Continental Invite. The 4x800-meter relay team, which qualified for ECACs during the indoor season, kicked off the outdoor season with another strong performance in spite of cold, blustery conditions. Seniors Erin West and Meredith FitzPatrick and first-years Allie Gurney and Hannah Kloeckner carried the team to one of its five first-place finishes of the day.

FitzPatrick also captured second place in the 1,500 meter run with a time of 5:05.99, and West took fifth putting down a solid mark of 5:09.94.

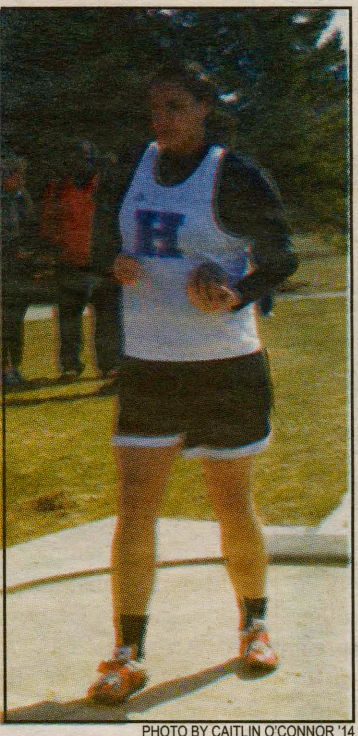

PHOTO BY CAITLIN O'CONNOR '14

Shot putter Molly Brooks '14 before her final throw.

Emily Heckman '13 continued her individual success in the open 800-meter run, finishing a solid time of 2:26.30. Sarah Ohanesian '14 finished right on Heckman's heels, posting a time of 2:29.36. Heckman was also part of a victorious 4x400-meter relay team, which featured Ohanesian, Anna Heywood '13 and Emily Richey '14, and completed four circuits around Pritchard Track in 4:26.61. Hannah Lyons '14 battled the wind and cold in the 5,000-meter run and finished in fifth-place with a time of 19:41.15.

Hamilton also produced excellent results in the field events. Claire Hunsinger '13 led the way with a second-place mark in the javelin throw with a toss of 27.76 meters and third- and sixth-place finishes in the triple jump and high jump, respectively. First-year throwing standout Molly Brooks made quite a statement in her outdoor debut. In highly competitive field, which featured several excellent throwers, Brooks was able to post a mark of 36.64 meters, enough to gain her sixth place.

Muriel Schwinn '13 continued on her winning streak and took first-place in the long jump with a distance of 5.15 meters. Schwinn also collected a third-place finish in the 100-meter dash and posted a time that won her sixth-place in the 200-meter dash. Early success won't leave the team complacent though. Schwinn echoed this sentiment when discussing her performance, saying that the day marked an alright start to the season, but there is plenty of room for improvement as the season progresses.

The team will be in action again this weekend at the University of Rochester Invitational.

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Social events could inspire March Madness

by Dave Meisel '13
Sports Writer

For those crazy about sports, it's hard to stay sane when March Madness hits. So why don't we seem to care?

"March Madness at Hamilton is much like anything else at Hamilton," said senior Matt Gabriel, a Texas Longhorns fan. "It attracts a very specific fan base that gets very involved, and it is basically ignored by the rest of campus. Because of this, there is not the campus-wide hysteria that you see at many other institutions."

"I feel like there are people [interested in the tournament], but there is no collective interest within the community," added Jeremy Brendle '13.

Often, it takes a social event to get people to care. "There are public screenings of Monday Night Football, the NFL Playoffs and the Jersey Shore, but there were no events for the NCAA Tournament," said Communication Professor Heather Ferrara.

Indeed, Hamilton's events staff did a great job organizing weekly screenings of the NFL and the Jersey Shore in the Sadove Center, and the Little Pub always has events for Monday Night Football. But little to no attention was paid to the NCAA Tournament.

Gabriel and Ferrara both believe that the community is passing up a valuable social opportunity. "The seeming lack of interest on campus is unfortunate because it could be a fun campus-wide activity for many people to get involved in," said Gabriel. Ferrara, despite not identifying herself as a particularly intense basketball fan, added, "We could do more to give students and faculty alike a social experience through the tournament."

It doesn't make sense that the Tournament draws little interest, because it's exciting. It starts during and continues through spring break, relieving the post-Super Bowl doldrums that occur every February, when only the NBA and NHL are in season.

The tournament is a sports spectacle unlike any other in America. In no other sport does the underdog have such a great chance to win. America loves underdogs, and in the midst of March Madness, there's

see *March Madness*, page 15

Women's lacrosse: Back on top?

PHOTO BY KEVIN PRIOR '13

Midfielder Rachel Friedman '13 scans the field during an offensive play.

by Rebecca Hazlett '13
Sports Contributor

After dominating competition during their time in Florida, the Hamilton women's lacrosse team came back with the same level of play they left off with last year. A tough loss to SUNY Cortland and three wins, including a win against future NESCAC opponent Middlebury, brought the Continentals right back on track. The team, currently ranked second in the country, is excited for their next championship game.

Hamilton knew it was going to be a close game against the fifth-ranked SUNY Cortland Red Dragons. It was the Continentals' first game at home for the 2011 season, but their efforts fell short with a 12-9 loss. However, the team held their heads high and went into the next two games with a chip on their shoulder, beating both Nazareth and St. John Fisher. Junior "backer" or defenseman Meg Pengue '12 said, "losing to Cortland was the best thing that could have happened for us." The pressure of being perfect is no longer a target on their backs, and a loss will only make the team stronger.

Ninth-ranked Middlebury attempted to give the Continentals a tough game, but Hamilton came out with something to prove. Knowing that they will be facing Middlebury next year when they join the NESCAC for league play, the team needed to send a message, and they did exactly that. Sophomore sensation Rachel Friedman said, "Middlebury has always been one of the strongest contenders and we wanted to show them a little preview of what will happen next year." Hamilton dominated the whole game and never gave Middlebury a shimmering glance at a comeback. Friedman went on to say, "Our hustle and ride caused them to force turnovers which allowed us

see *Lacrosse*, page 14

Senior Bickard flies solo at ECAC

Men's track has strong showing at Continental Invitational

by Caitlin O'Connor '14
Sports Editor

The wind wasn't the only thing whipping across the Hill last Saturday as the men's outdoor track and field team ran to two first place finishes while hosting their first meet of the 2011 season.

While most of the athletes were busy getting out of shape in between the winter and spring seasons, senior Scott Bickard was competing at the national level. Before spring break, eight members of the indoor track and field team competed in the 2011 Eastern College Athletic Conference Division III men's and women's indoor track and field championships at the New Balance Track & Field Center at the New York City Armory.

Seven of these athletes were women, including a relay team and three individual competitors, while Bickard was the only representation for the Hamilton men's track and field program. On Friday March 4, Bickard finished 14th in the 5000 meter run in a pack of 34 competitors. Bickard managed to drop eight seconds off of his seed time, resulting in a final time of 15:03.58.

With winter behind them, the Continentals were ready to start off the spring season on the right foot. Yet the winter blues seemed to follow them back to the Hill after spring break as the Rensselaer Invitational on Mar. 26 was cancelled due to poor weather conditions. The team was anxious to set foot on the track again last weekend, especially after over a month without competition for most of the athletes.

Yet Hamilton's rustiness was unapparent when they took to Pritchard Track on this past Saturday, April 2, for the Continental Invitational. Despite the harsh weather and more than 10 opposing teams, the Continentals were able

see *Men's Track*, page 15

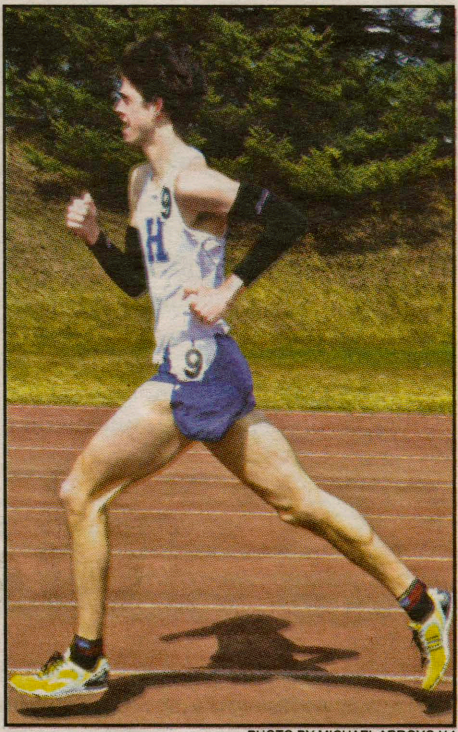

PHOTO BY MICHAEL ARROYO '14

Grebey '12 during the 5000m run.